ISSHIKI Makoto
presents

The Perfect World of KAI

4

Modeling/Gentarou Araki
Art Director/Hisao Ogawa

ISSHIKI Makoto presents

ピアノの森

一色まこと

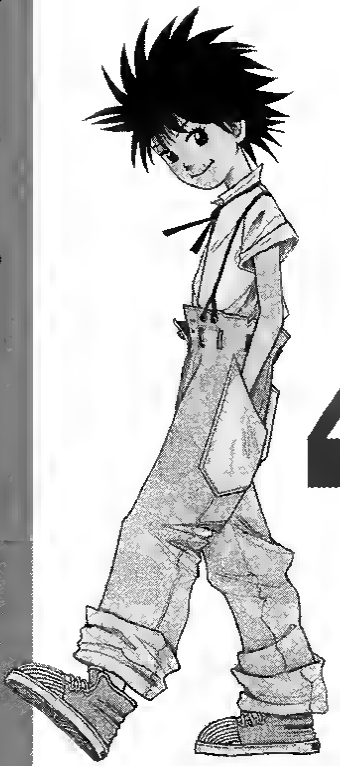
The Perfect World of KAI

4

ピアノの森 4 一色まこと

講談社

ピアノの森



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The Perfect World of KAI

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ISSHIKI Makoto

The Perfect World of KAI

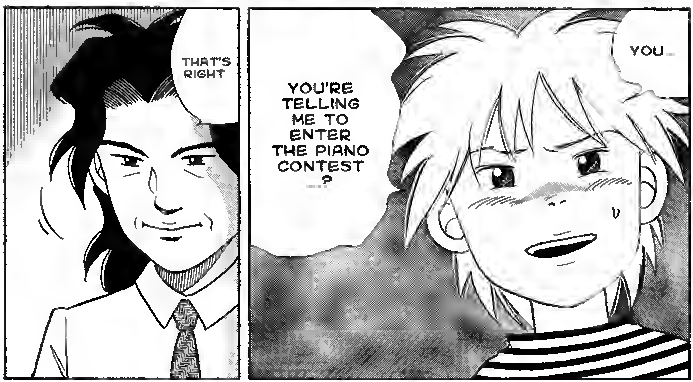
4

CONTENTS

Chapter 25	Deal ②	5
Chapter 26	I've Misunderstood You	31
Chapter 27	Ess Ei Jay Eye Enne Oh	61
Chapter 28	Give It our All...	81
Chapter 29	Mozart's Dying Will	107
Chapter 30	The Morning of the Contest	132
Chapter 31	on Edge	159
Chapter 32	Little Lady Takako-sama	185

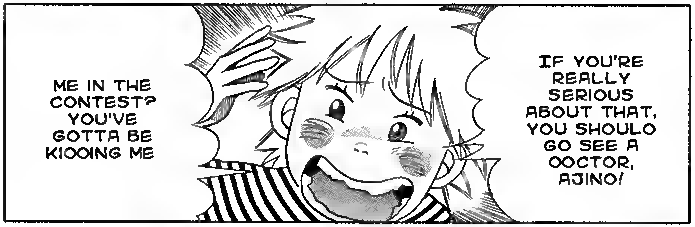
ALL CHARACTERS IN THIS STORY ARE FICTIONAL, ANY RESEMBLANCE IS ENTIRELY COINCIDENTAL.

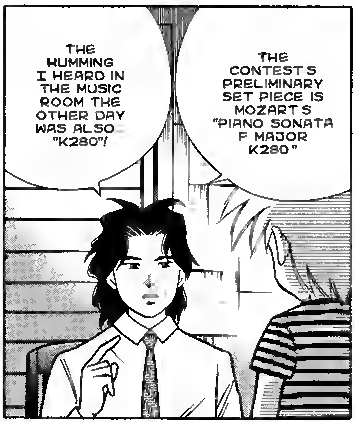
WHAT IS
Chapter 25
Deal ②

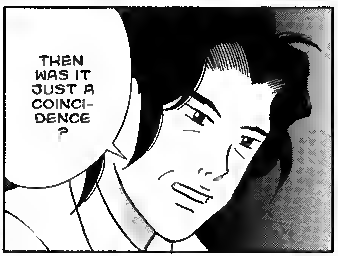

THAT'S RIGHT
YOU'RE TELLING ME TO ENTER THE PIANO CONTEST ?
YOU

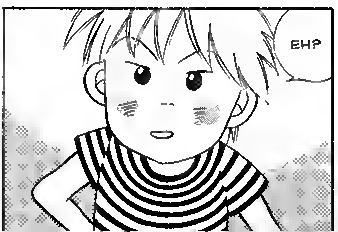
SO NOW WE HAVE A "DEAL"
FOR REAL?
OF COURSE

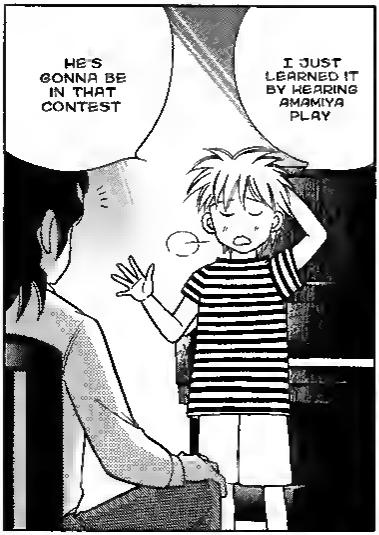
BHYA HYA HYA HYAAA-AH!!!


ME IN THE CONTEST? YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME
IF YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT THAT, YOU SHOULD GO SEE A DOCTOR, AJINO!

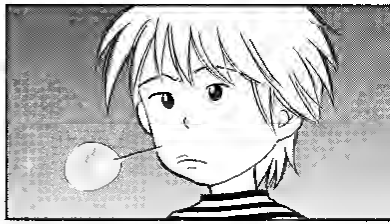

THE HUMMING I HEARD IN THE MUSIC ROOM THE OTHER DAY WAS ALSO "K280"!
THE CONTEST'S PRELIMINARY SET PIECE IS MOZART'S "PIANO SONATA F MAJOR K280"


THEN WAS IT JUST A COINCI-DENCE?


EH?

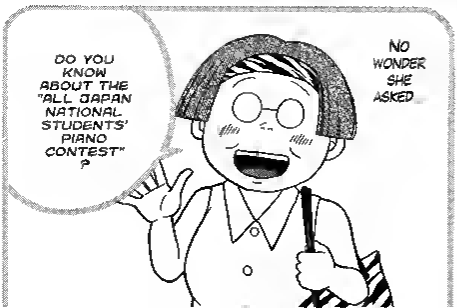

HE'S GONNA BE IN THAT CONTEST
I JUST LEARNED IT BY HEARING AMAMIYA PLAY

SO I THOUGHT YOU HAD SOME INTEREST IN THE CONTEST
THE TIMING WAS TOO GOOD TO BE A COINCIDENCE

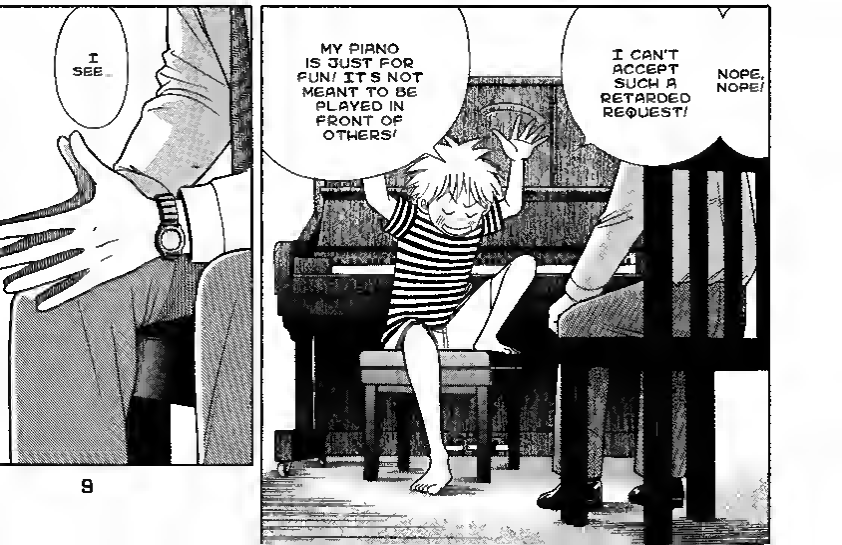


I SEE... AMAMIYA WILL BE IN IT.

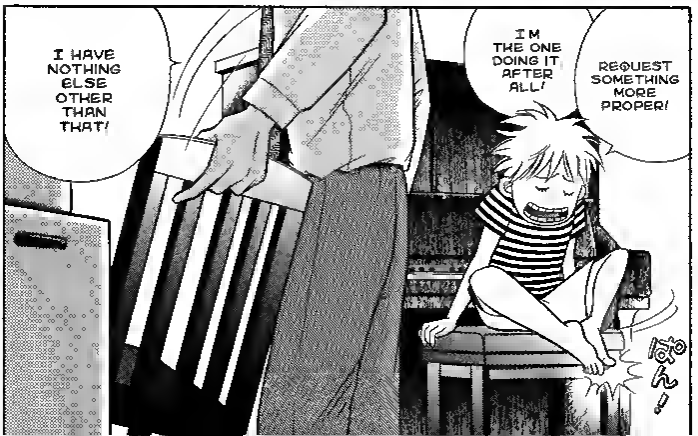
AH...


DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE "ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST"?
NO WONDER SHE ASKED...

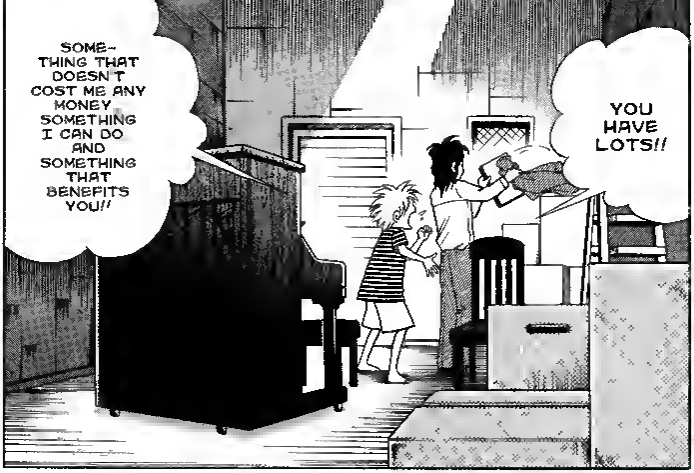
I'LL JUST BE EMBARRASSED FOR BEING OUT OF PLACE.
IF I ENTER IT AS A JOKE,
PEOPLE LIKE AMAMIYA THAT ARE AIMING TO BE A PRO...
FIRST OF ALL, PIANO CONTESTS ARE... EVENTS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS FROM GOOD FAMILIES WHO'VE BEEN PRACTICING HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO EVER SINCE THEY WERE LITTLE!

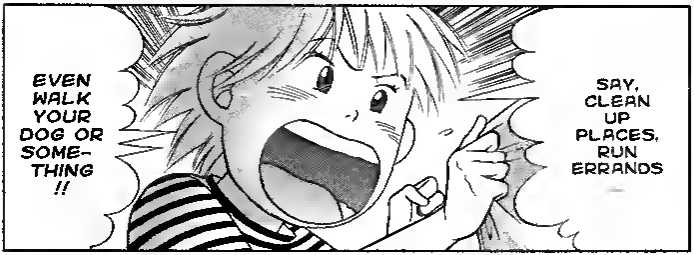

I SEE...
MY PIANO IS JUST FOR FUN! IT'S NOT MEANT TO BE PLAYED IN FRONT OF OTHERS!
I CAN'T ACCEPT SUCH A RETARDED REQUEST!
NOPE, NOPE!

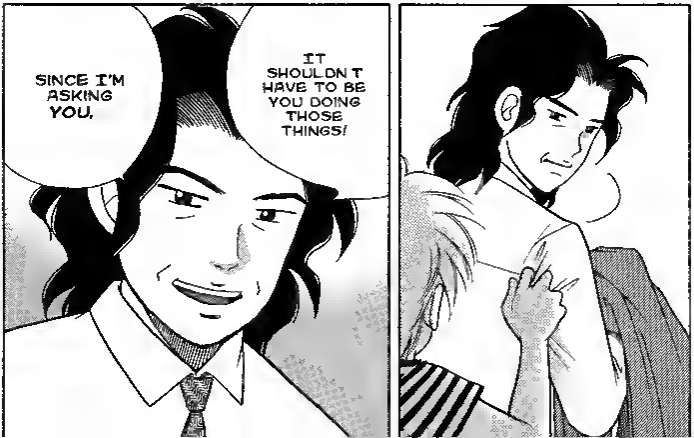
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN INTERESTING IF THE JUDGES LISTENED TO YOUR PIANO, ICHINOSE
I THOUGHT IT WAS A PRETTY GOOD IDEA...
HEH
I'M DISAP-POINTED BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED
ぽん！
SIGH YOU'RE JUST A GUY WITH BAD TASTE!
はぁ


I HAVE NOTHING ELSE OTHER THAN THAT!
I'M THE ONE DOING IT AFTER ALL!
REQUEST SOMETHING MORE PROPER!
ぽん！

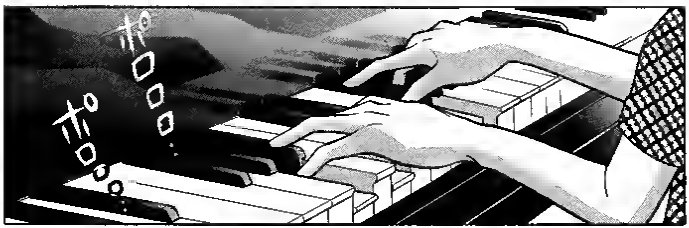
WHAT DO YOU MEAN
NOTHING ELSE?
NO WAY!! THINK SERIOUSLY, AJINO!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN; "NOTHING ELSE" /?


SOME-THING THAT DOESN'T COST ME ANY MONEY SOMETHING I CAN DO AND SOMETHING THAT BENEFITS YOU!!
YOU HAVE LOTS!!


EVEN WALK YOUR DOG OR SOME-THING !!
SAY, CLEAN UP PLACES, RUN ERRANDS


SINCE I'M ASKING YOU,
IT SHOULDN'T HAVE TO BE YOU DOING THOSE THINGS!

I CAN CLEAN UP AND RUN ERRANDS JUST FINE
EH?
HEY, WAIT UP, AJINO!!
BASTARD, ARE YOU CANCELLING THE DEAL !?
HA HA...
I DON'T HAVE A DOG EITHER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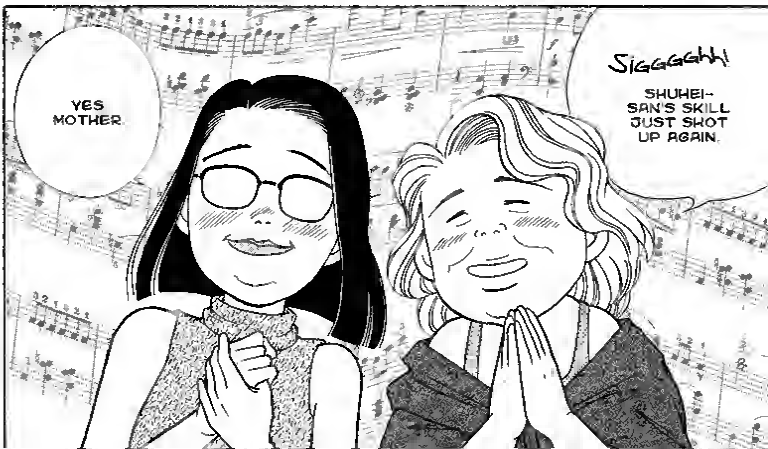
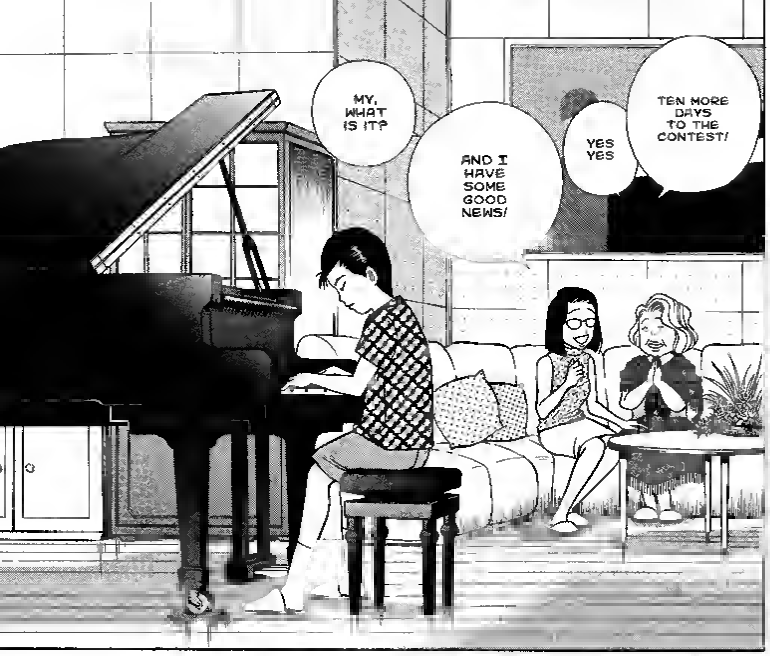
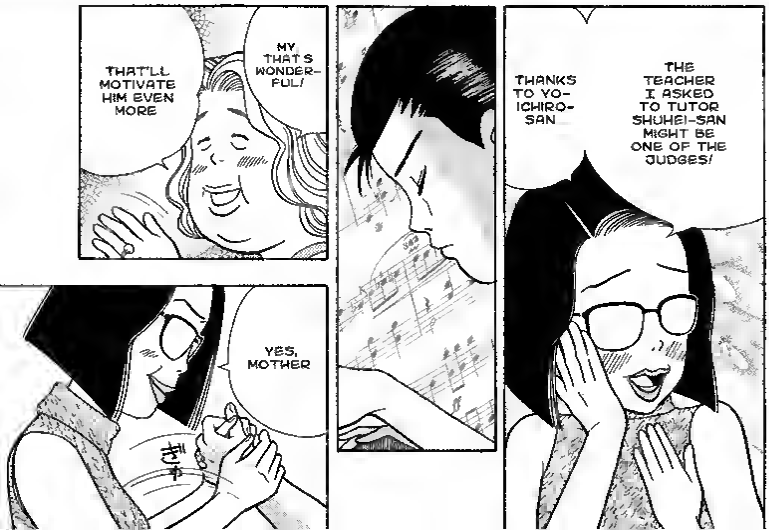
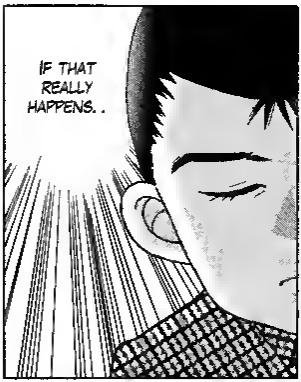
ポロ..

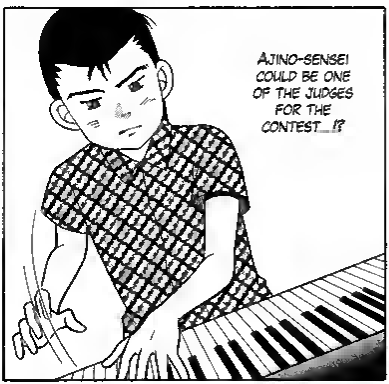

YES MOTHER.
SIGGGGHH
SHUHEI-SAN'S SKILL JUST SHOT UP AGAIN.

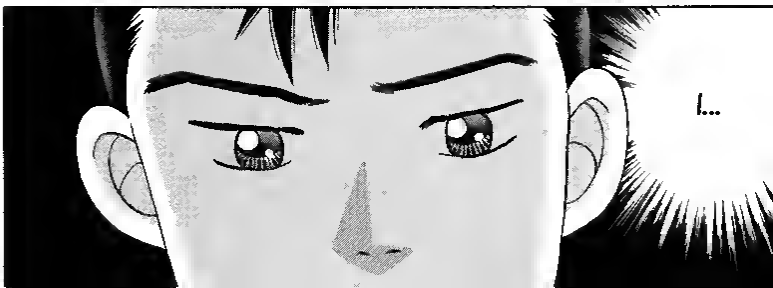

TEN MORE DAYS TO THE CONTEST!
YES YES
AND I HAVE SOME GOOD NEWS!
MY, WHAT IS IT?


THE TEACHER I ASKED TO TUTOR SHUHEI-SAN MIGHT BE ONE OF THE JUDGES!
THANKS TO YO-ICHIRO-SAN
MY THAT'S WONDER-FUL!
THAT'LL MOTIVATE HIM EVEN MORE
YES, MOTHER

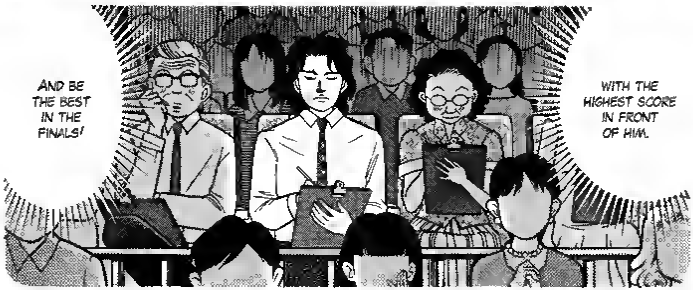
AJINO-SENSEI...
AND, WHEN WILL YOICHIRO-SAN COME BACK TO JAPAN?
HE'LL BE HERE NEXT WEEK!


IF THAT REALLY HAPPENS..


AJINO-SENSEI COULD BE ONE OF THE JUDGES FOR THE CONTEST...!?


I...

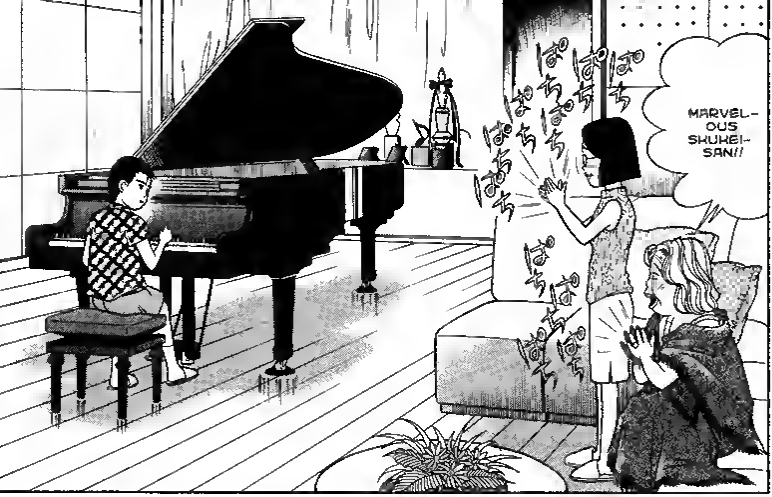
I WANT TO PASS THE PRELIMINARY . .


AND BE THE BEST IN THE FINALS!
WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE IN FRONT OF HIM.

IN THE NATIONAL CONTEST ...
AND.

99 第5回 全日本学生 ピアノコン
I REALLY WANT TO WIN THE TITLE!!!
I WANT SENSEI... TO LISTEN TO
THE BEST PIANO
ぱちぱちぱち

IN JAPAN!!
ぽちぽちぽちぽちぽちぽち


MARVELOUS SHUHEI-SAN!!
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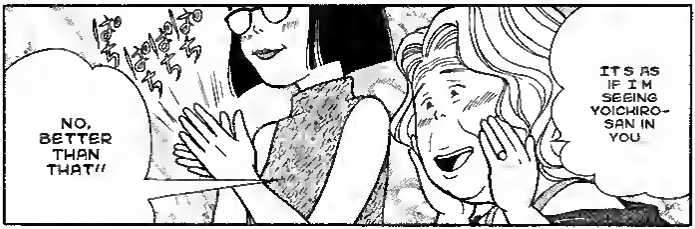
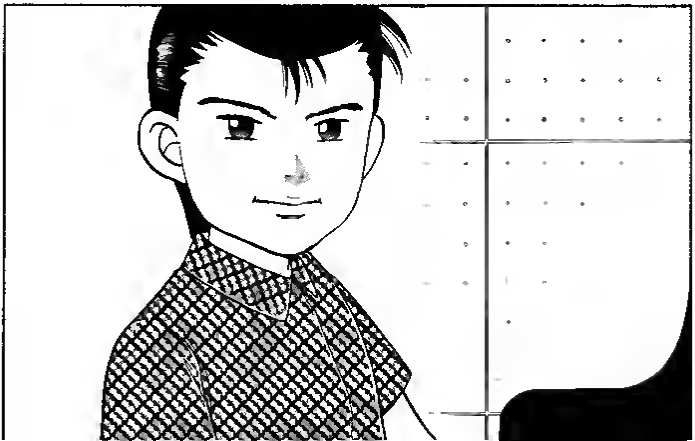
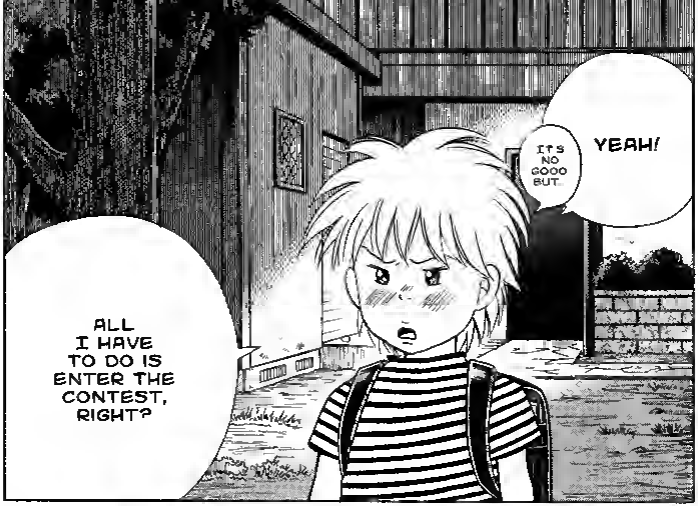
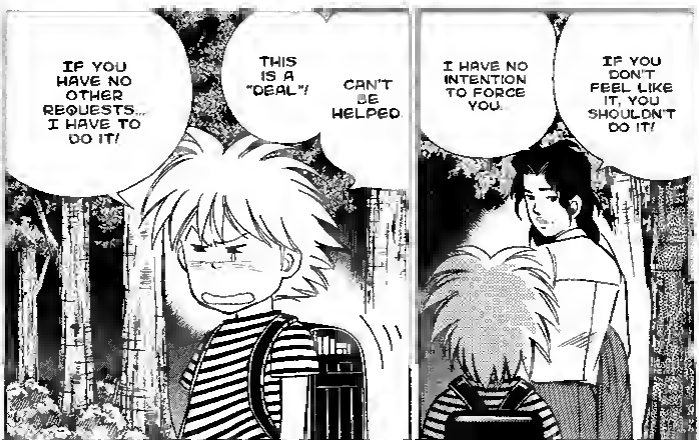

NO, BETTER THAN THAT!!
ぱちぱちぱちぱちぱち
IT'S AS IF I'M SEEING YOICHIRO-SAN IN YOU



ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY?

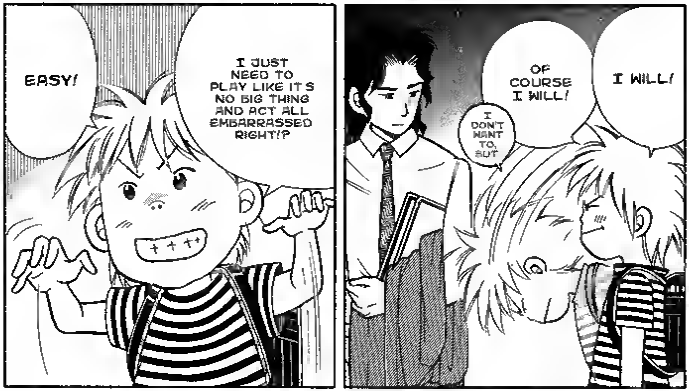

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS ENTER THE CONTEST, RIGHT?
IT'S NO GOOD BUT.
YEAH!

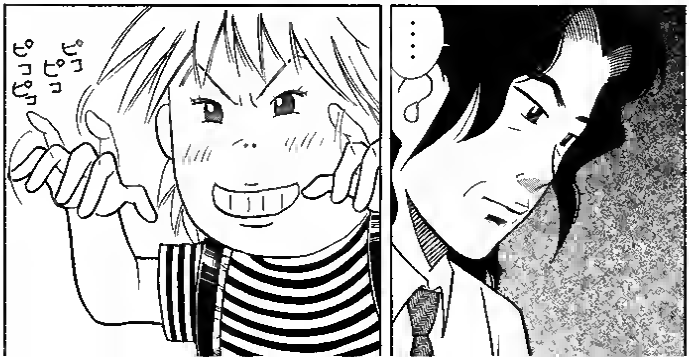
.....


IF YOU HAVE NO OTHER REQUESTS... I HAVE TO DO IT!
THIS IS A "DEAL"!
CAN'T BE HELPED
I HAVE NO INTENTION TO FORCE YOU.
IF YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE IT, YOU SHOULDN'T DO IT!

YOU'RE OVER-REACTING
HA HA...
I DON'T WANT TO LIVE A LIFE REGRETTING THAT I LEARNED HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO FOR FREE!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE PAPER WORKS
THE PRELIMINARY FOR THE CONTEST IS IN TEN DAYS!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO QUIT, ICHINOSE!
ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL DO IT?


EASY!
I JUST NEED TO PLAY LIKE IT'S NO BIG THING AND ACT ALL EMBARRASSED RIGHT!?
I DON'T WANT TO, BUT...
OF COURSE I WILL!
I WILL!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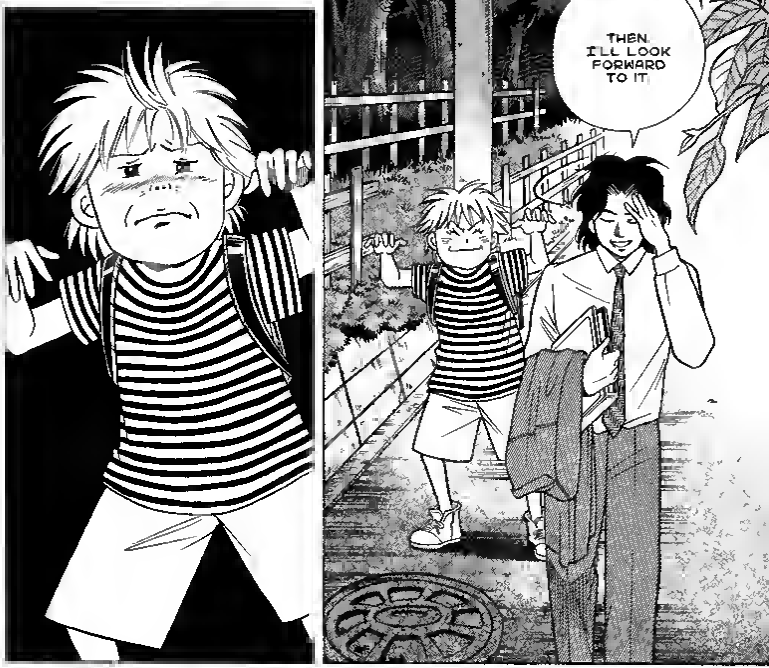
...


THEN, I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

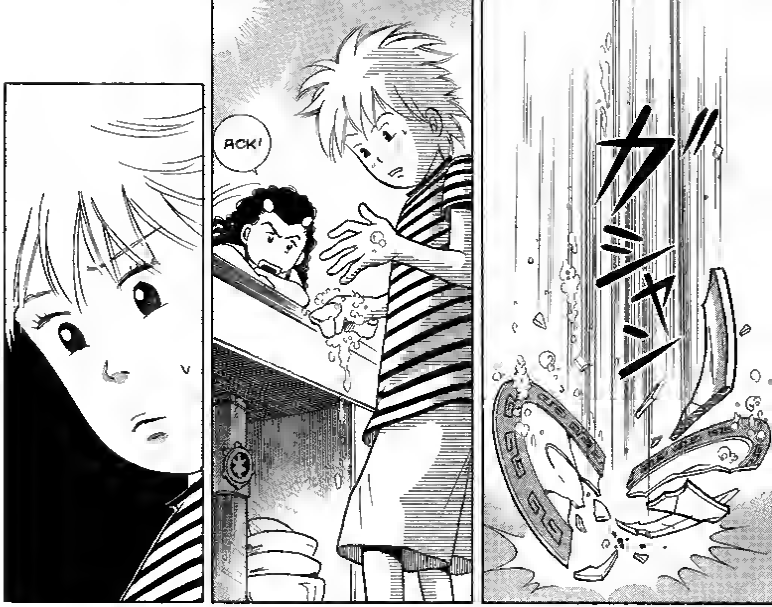
W-WHO!... I'M ENTERING THE PIANO CONTEST...
.....
.....
AND THAT'S THAT!

暁
キャー
あはは
キャー
キャー
……

はぁ
SHIT I DON'T WANT TO DO IT
KAI! ARI-CHAN CAN WASH DISHES FOR YOU
EH?

IT'S ALL RIGHT YOU'LL JUST END UP BREAKING THEM ANY-WAY
BUT YOU JUST SAID DON'T WANT TO DO IT
I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT THE DISHES
JUST GO OVER THERE YOU'RE BOTHERING ME!
はぁ..

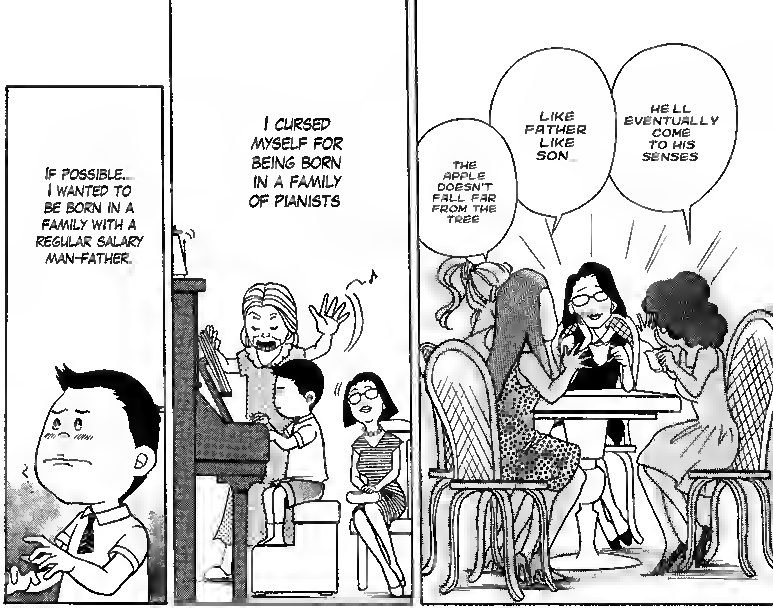
AMAMIYA
SIGH, AJINO'S TOTALLY MESSING WITH ME...
WHY AM I ENTERING A HIGH-LEVEL CONTEST SOMEONE LIKE AMAMIYA WOULD ENTER...?
AH...
NOW I REMEMBER... THE "ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST" I'M ENTERING BECAUSE OF THE DEAL...
IS AN IMPORTANT CONTEST...
THAT AMAMIYA HAS PRACTICED FOR HIS ENTIRE LIFE
AND IS DEVOTING ALL HIS ENERGY TO WITH A CLEAR GOAL IN MIND.

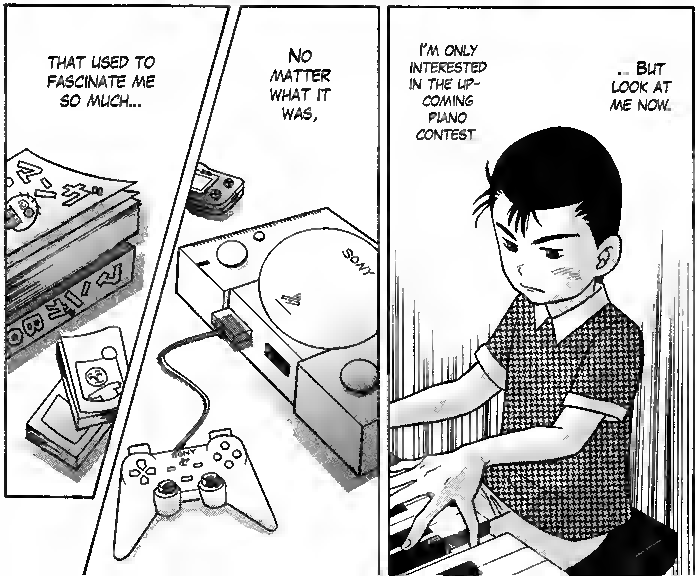

ACK!
ガシャン

... I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
NO MEAL FOR YOU TONIGHT!
TOLD YOU ARI-CHAN'D DO IT FOR YOU...

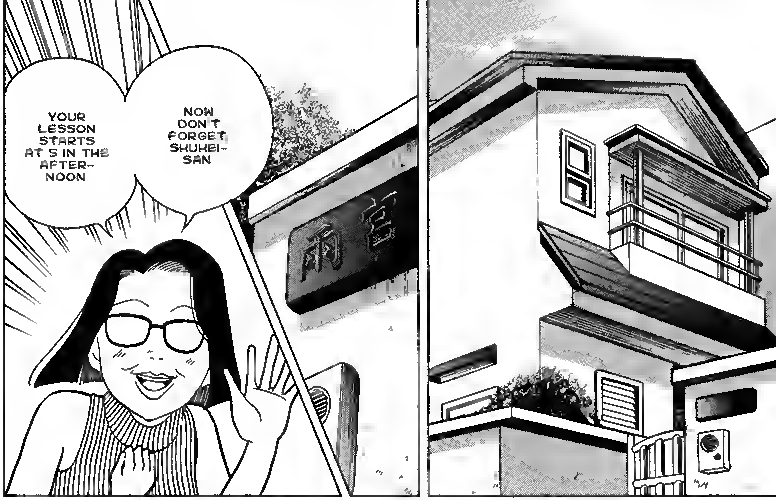
取りらき② END

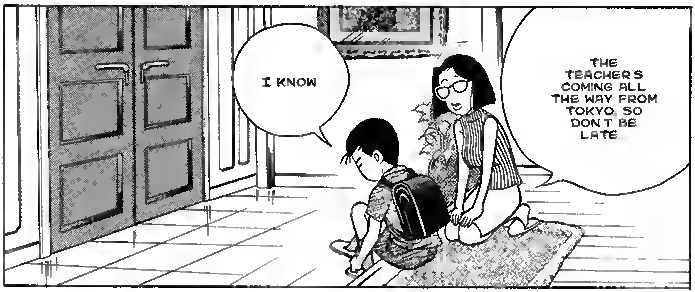
— WHEN I WAS LITTLE.. THE PIANO USED TO BE MY ENEMY.
THAT WAS, BECAUSE I NEEDED TO SACRIFICE SO MANY THINGS.
FOR PIANO LESSONS.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT SHUHEI-KUN


IF POSSIBLE... I WANTED TO BE BORN IN A FAMILY WITH A REGULAR SALARY MAN-FATHER.
I CURSED MYSELF FOR BEING BORN IN A FAMILY OF PIANISTS
THE APPLE DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM THE TREE
LIKE FATHER LIKE SON
HE'LL EVENTUALLY COME TO HIS SENSES


THAT USED TO FASCINATE ME SO MUCH...
NO MATTER WHAT IT WAS,
SONY
I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN THE UP-COMING PIANO CONTEST.
.. BUT LOOK AT ME NOW.

MATTSUI IS ECSTATIC!
AND ICHIRO WAS STRUCK OUT!
ROOKIE MATSUZAKA IS TAKEN ABACK!
AMAZING! ICHIRO'S ANNOUNCING HIS HOME RUN!
CLICK
LEAVES ME COMPLETELY COLD NOW.
IS IT TRUE THAT THE APPLE DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM THE TREE?
WAS IT REALLY IN MY BLOOD?
AWAKEN?
DID I...


NOW DON'T FORGET, SHUHEI-SAN
YOUR LESSON STARTS AT 5 IN THE AFTER-NOON


I KNOW
THE TEACHER'S COMING ALL THE WAY FROM TOKYO. SO DON'T BE LATE

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE I'D BE MISSING ANY IMPORTANT CLASSES
BUT YOUR STUDIES ARE IMPORTANT TOO
I'D LET YOU SKIP SCHOOL GIVEN THE CIRCUM-STANCE

... I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT.
WE'LL BE LEAVING THIS PLACE SOON SO THE TIME YOU SPEND WITH YOUR FRIENDS IS IMPORTANT TOO
BUT YOU KNOW GRANDMOTHER IS FEELING BETTER LATELY
ARE JUST A WASTE OF MY TIME.
I FEEL LIKE MOST THINGS...
!

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ocean fine & page

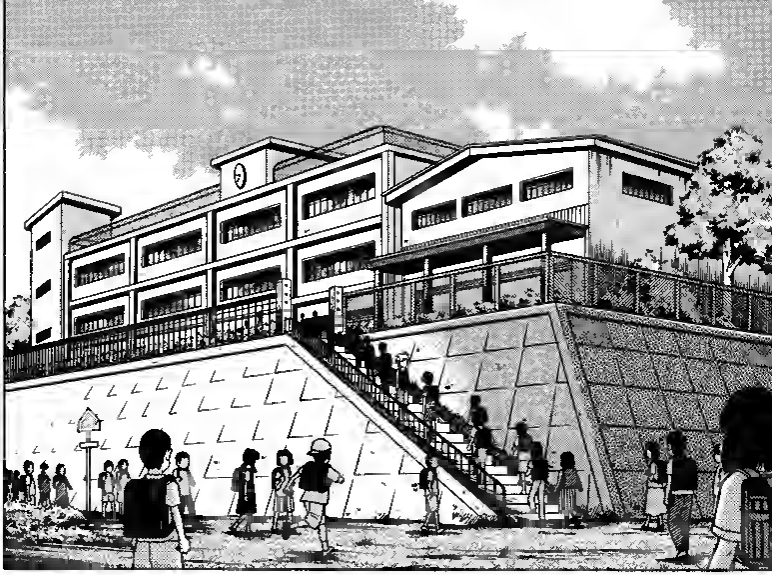
Chapter 26

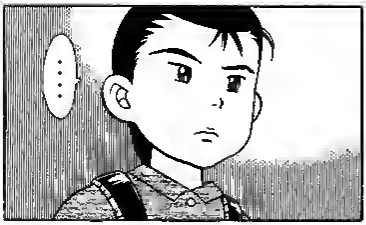
I've Misunderstood You

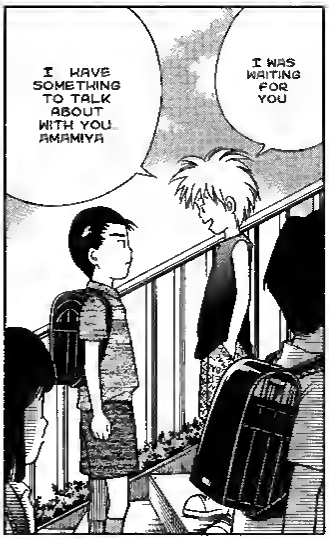
MORNING AMAMIYA!

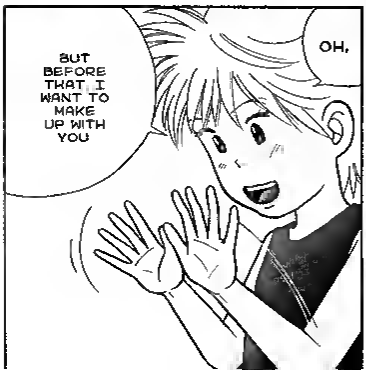
KAI-KUN.

G MORNING ICHINOSE-KUN




...


I WAS WAITING FOR YOU
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT WITH YOU AMAMIYA

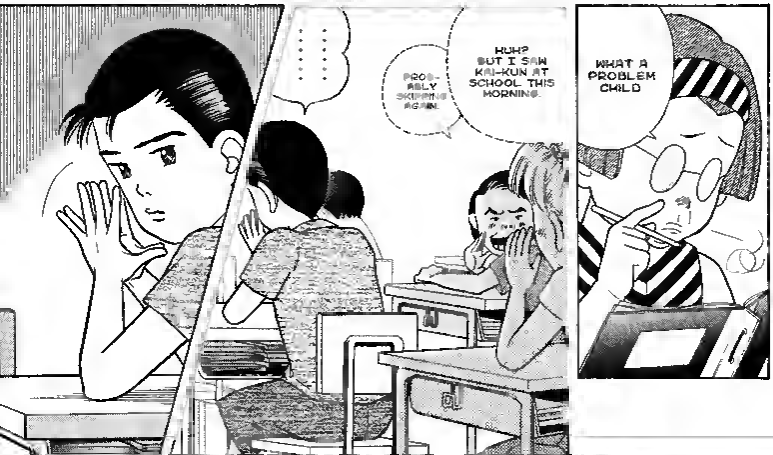

OH,
BUT BEFORE THAT I WANT TO MAKE UP WITH YOU

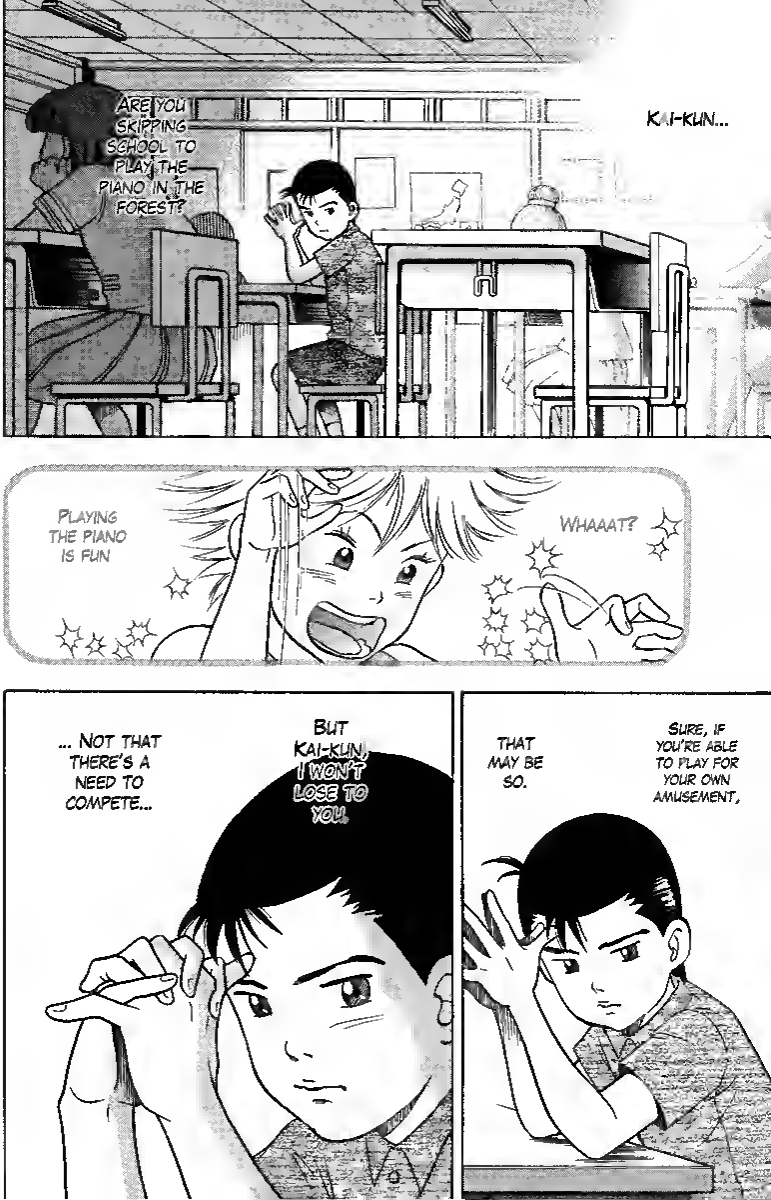
AND I DIDN'T MISUNDERSTAND YOU
THAT'S ALREADY IN THE PAST
I MEAN THERE WAS SOME KIND OF MISUNDERSTANDING
NOW?
THEN WILL YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY?
REALLY?
森脇小学校
AMAMIYA-KUUN
AMAMIYA-KUUN
森脇小学校
AH, AMAMIYA-KUN!

I'M SORRY BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO LISTEN NOW
SEE YOU TOMORROW THEN!
.....
SORRY
AHAHHA-KUMAI.
THEY'RE CALLING ME SO I'M GONNA GO AHEAD
LISTEN, NORIKA STARTED TO LEARN HOW TO PLAY THE PIANO YESTERDAY AND
HI.
I SEE
森脇小学校
.....

5の3

ICHINOSE KAI-KUN!
HE'S NOT HERE?
ICHINOSE-KUN!


.....
PROB-ABLY SKIPPING AGAIN.
HUH? BUT I SAW KAI-KUN AT SCHOOL THIS MORNING.
WHAT A PROBLEM CHILD


KAI-KUN...
ARE YOU SKIPPING SCHOOL TO PLAY THE PIANO IN THE FOREST?
WHAAAT?
PLAYING THE PIANO IS FUN
SURE, IF YOU'RE ABLE TO PLAY FOR YOUR OWN AMUSEMENT,
THAT MAY BE SO.
BUT KAI-KUN, I WON'T LOSE TO YOU!
... NOT THAT THERE'S A NEED TO COMPETE...

YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M SORRY...
I... AM DIFFERENT FROM YOU.
AS YOU SAID, WE LIVE IN DIFFERENT WORLDS.

SFX: para
IT'S NO USE
はふう
AND LOOK AT YOU NOW! GOING ALL "PARA PARA" ON ME
I'M FINALLY ABLE TO PLAY IT.

IS IT STARTING TO FALL APART LIKE EVERYONE SAYS?
I HATE THIS ..
YOU CAN PLAY CHOPIN WITH A NORMAL PIANO.
I HATE THIS

MUSIC ROOM
AJINO-SENSEI!
ハァハァ
ハァハァ
YOU'VE GOT A PHONE CALL!
SENSE!! SENSE!! PLEASE COME TO THE STAFF ROOM AT ONCE
PI
POH
THE PRINCIPAL IS TALKING TO HIM NOW BUT
SOME HIGHER-UP FROM A NEWS-PAPER COMPANY THAT'S PRESIDING A PIANO CONTEST OF SOME SORT
?
PYA

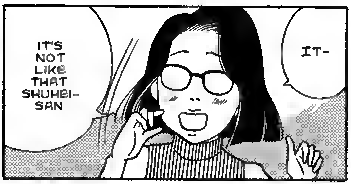
...?
I HAVEN'T GOT A CLUE WHAT'S GOING ON.
HE'S SAYING SOMETHING JUDGE THIS, JUDGE THAT...

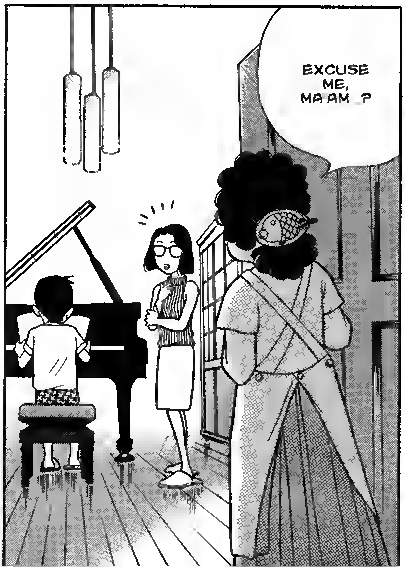
THANK YOU
I'M AMAZED YOU WERE ABLE TO PLAY THE ENTIRE PIECE SO WELL MOST EXCELLENT
EITHER WAY, YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
DO NOT MAKE A SINGLE MISTAKE DURING THE PERFORMANCE... BE ACCURATE!
EITHER WAY
IT'S REALLY COMMENDABLE FOR YOU TO BE PLAYING MOZART IN THE PRELIMINARY AND THEN CHOPIN IN THE FINAL

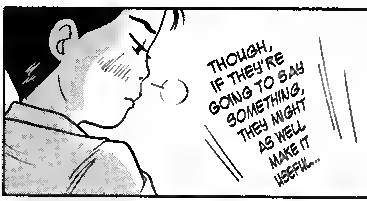
AS LONG AS YOU FOCUS ON THAT ALL YOU NEED IS YOUR TALENT...
THAT TEACHER DID US NO GOOD
I HEARD SHE WAS FAMOUS FOR HER HARSH CRITICISM SO I HAD HIGH HOPES...
BUT WE ALREADY KNOW EVERY-THING SHE SAID
IF EVERYONE'S SAYING THE SAME THINGS MAYBE THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS
OR ARE YOU THINKING OF GETTING ANOTHER TEACHER?
DON'T BOTHER

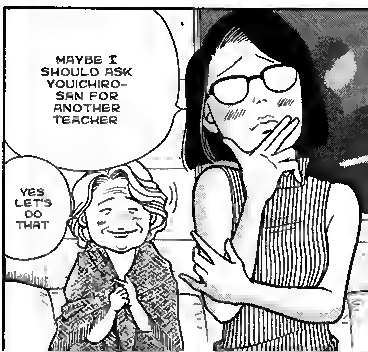
EVERYONE IS BEING SINCERE IN THEIR OPINIONS
IT'S JUST THAT BECAUSE YOUR PLAYING HAS NO SHORT-COMINGS THEY ALL END UP SAYING THE SAME THING...

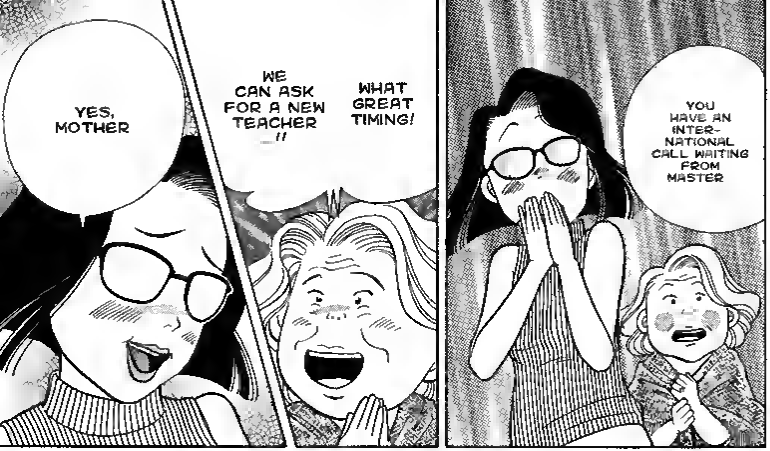
IT'S USELESS NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU CHANGE MY TEACHER
ALL OF THEM WILL ONLY PRAISE ME BE-CAUSE OF FATHER


IT-
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT SHUHEI-SAN

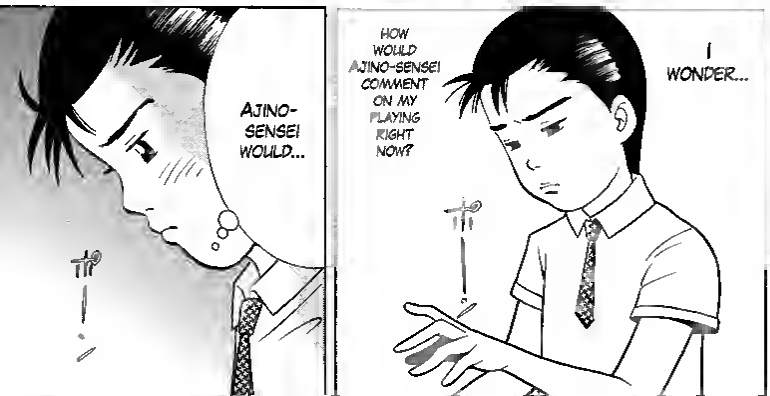

EXCUSE ME, MA'AM ?


THOUGH, IF THEY'RE GOING TO SAY SOMETHING, THEY MIGHT AS WELL MAKE IT USEFUL...


MAYBE I SHOULD ASK YOUICHIRO-SAN FOR ANOTHER TEACHER
YES LET'S DO THAT

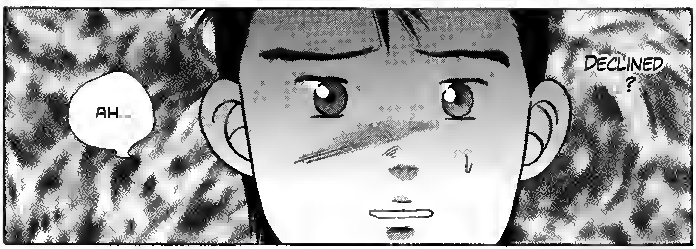

YES, MOTHER
WE CAN ASK FOR A NEW TEACHER
WHAT GREAT TIMING!
YOU HAVE AN INTER-NATIONAL CALL WAITING FROM MASTER

I TOLD THEM IT'S USELESS..


AJINO-SENSEI WOULD...
HOW WOULD AJINO-SENSEI COMMENT ON MY PLAYING RIGHT NOW?
I WONDER...

!
WHAT DID YOUICHIRO SAY?
OH THAT WAS QUICK
WH- WHAT'S GOING ON NAMIE SAN?
IS SOME- THING WRONG?
SHUHEI- SAN

A JUDGE AT THE CONTEST
DECLINED TO BE
AJINO-SENSEI!...

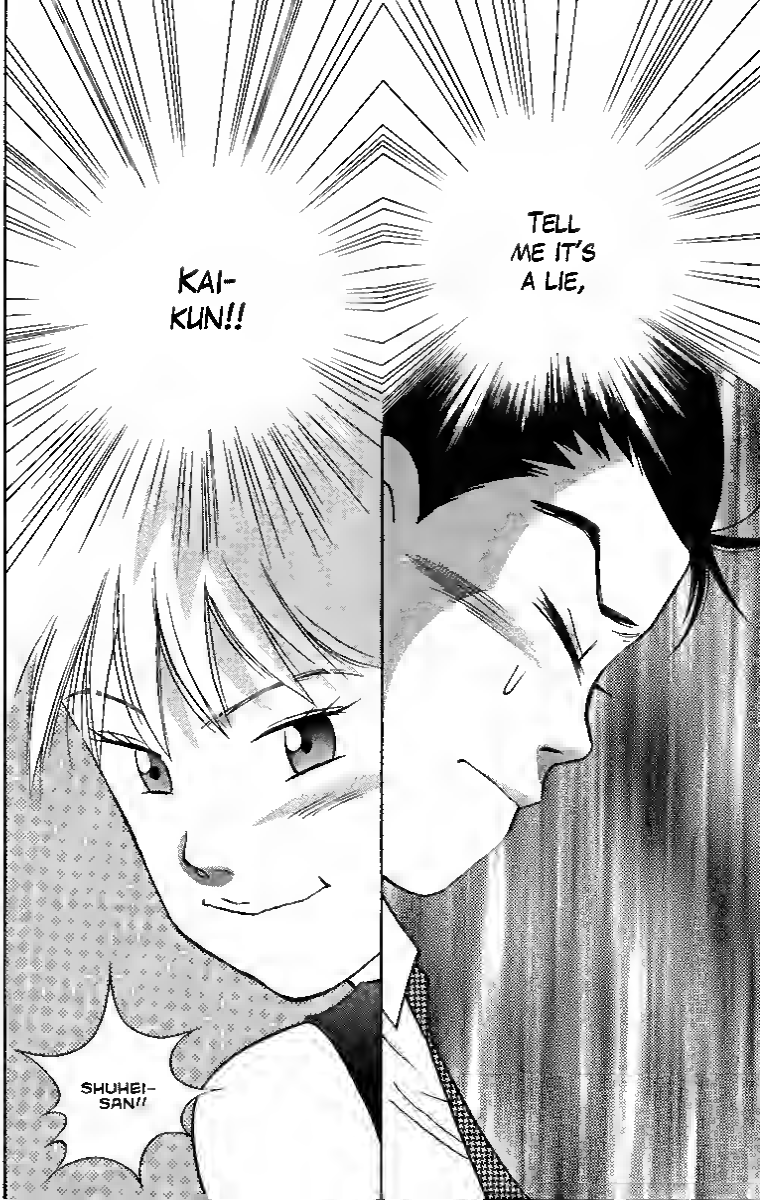

AH...
DECLINED?

THERE'S NO WAY HE WOULD JUST ACCEPT LIKE THAT...
T... THAT'S RIGHT.

AND...
HIS REASON FOR DECLINING THE POSITION...
IS...
BECAUSE HE HAS A STUDENT ENTERING THE CONTEST... IN ORDER TO AVOID A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, HE WANTED TO BE EXCUSED FROM BEING A JUDGE!

WHAT!!?

HE HAS A STUDENT ENTERING THE CONTEST...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
I DON'T KNOW
BUT I'M SURE I HEARD HIM SAY THAT...
N-
NO, CAN'T BE...
TELL ME IT'S A LIE!!


TELL ME IT'S A LIE,
KAI-KUN!!
SHUHEI-SAN!!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, SHUHEI-SAN!?
WAIT !!
ダッ
HE'S ENTERING THE CONTEST...?
IS KAI-KUN!
THE ONLY ONE, THAT COULD BE AJINO-SENSEI'S STUDENT,

KAI-KUN, WHY DIDN'T YOU MENTION ANYTHING?
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT WITH YOU AMA MIYA
I WAS WAITING FOR YOU
AH.

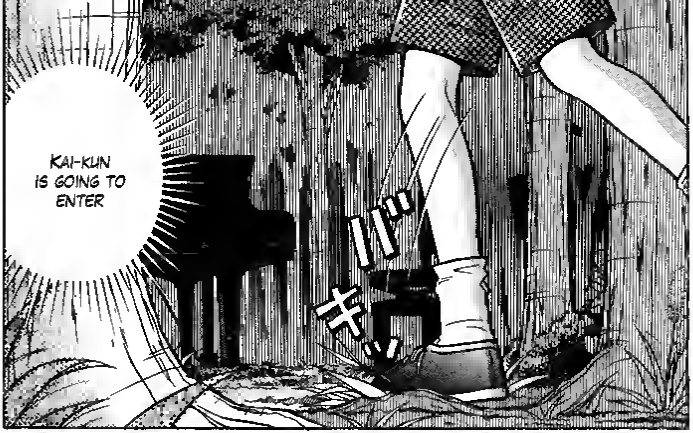
I MEAN THERE WAS SOME KIND OF MISUNDER STANDING
BUT BEFORE THAT I WANT TO MAKE UP WITH YOU
I DIDN T MISUNDER- STAND YOU
I'VE MISUNDER- STOOD YOU, REALLY.
I DID MISUNDER- STAND HIM!!

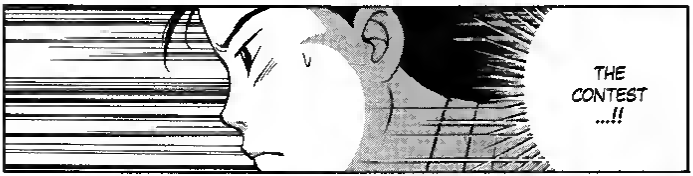
I DIDN'T IMAGINE THAT...
KAI-KUN WAS SO SERIOUS THAT HE'D TAKE ON..
WHAT IS SAID TO BE THE MOST DIFFICULT CONTEST...!!
誤解してたよ END

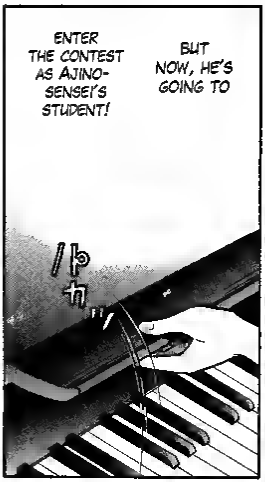
Chapter 27

Ess Ei Jay Eye Enne oh

KAI-
KUN.

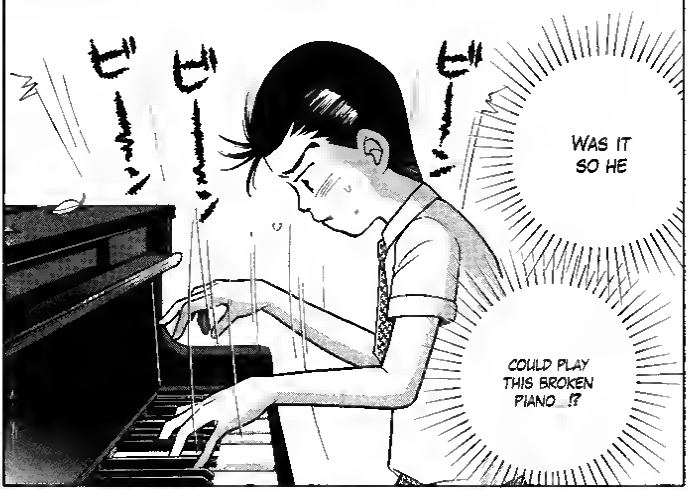


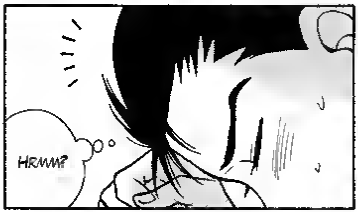


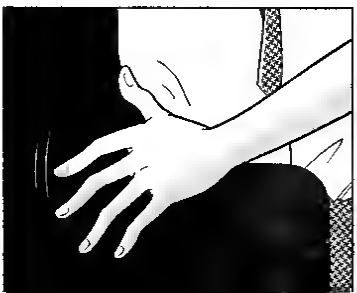


www.KEH.org
ocean dan & papa

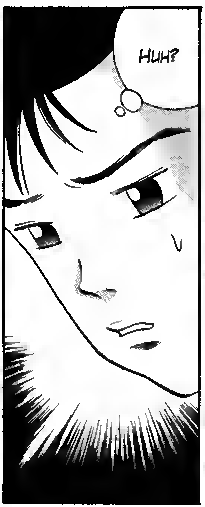
BOTH YOU AND YOUR MOM ARE TOO HUNG UP ON AJINO
KATA KATA
KATA KATA
KATA
BUT NOW HE'S JUST A SHABBY MUSIC TEACHER IN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT THE COUNTRY SIDE, WHO EVERYONE STAYS AWAY FROM!
MAYBE HE WAS A GREAT PIANIST BACK THEN...
HE EVEN SAID ALL THAT!!


ビーン
ビーン
ビーン
WAS IT SO HE
COULD PLAY THIS BROKEN PIANO_!?

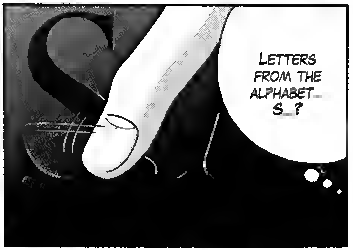

HRMM?



S AJINO


HUH?

A. J...
I.. N_ O..


LETTERS FROM THE ALPHABET... S_?

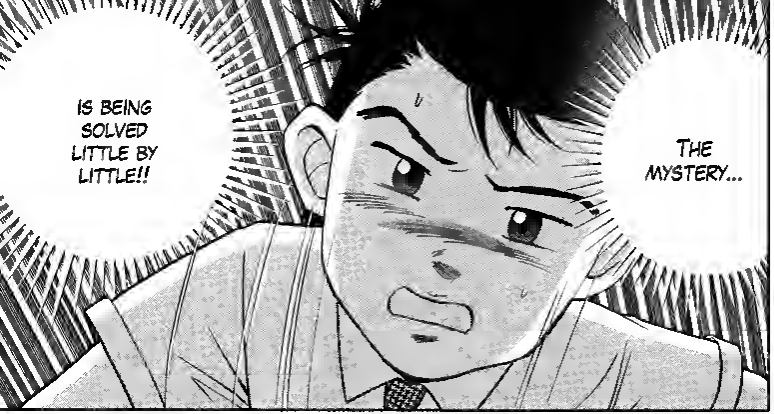
THERE ARE LETTERS CARVED INTO IT.

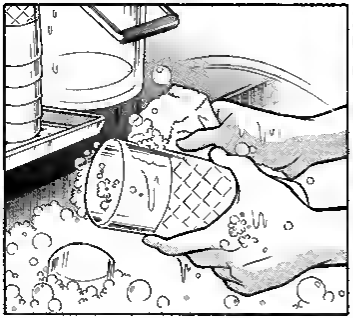
AJINO!!?
AJINO

AJINO
SOUSUKE.

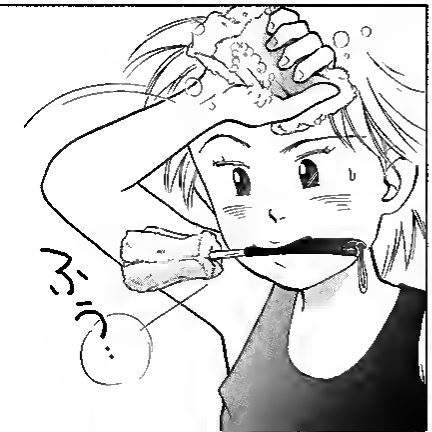
AH...
THIS ...
THIS WAS AJINO-SENSEI'S PIANO!!!

AH.
DOES KAI-KUN...
ARGH
KNOW ABOUT THIS!?
THE MYSTERY


IS BEING SOLVED LITTLE BY LITTLE!!
THE MYSTERY...



ゴゴゴゴ
暁


ふぅ…

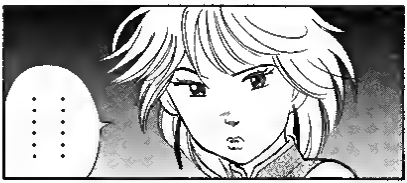
IF YOU'RE DONE OVER THERE GO HELP CLEAN UP THE KITCHEN IN THE BACK
KAI!
キャー
キャー
あはは

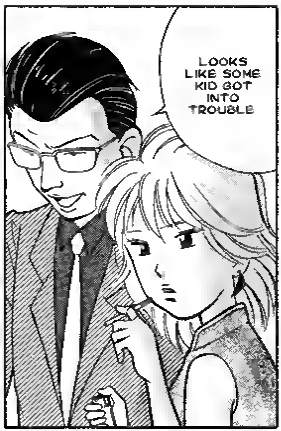
AHHAHHA
KAAAA! CHECK IF MY PUSSY IS DYING OR NOT ----!!
KAAAA! FONDLE MY BOOBS UNTIL I DIE TOO!
KAAAA! MASSAGE MY SHOULDERS UNTIL I DIE----!!
JUST DIE YOU HAGS

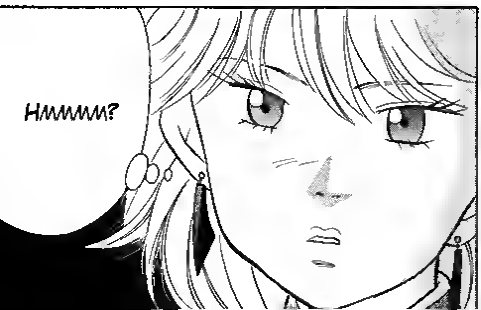
AW GEEZ

DON'T "AW GEEZ" ME
WE'RE DYING IN WORK OVER HERE!

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
暁


……


LOOKS LIKE SOME KID GOT INTO TROUBLE


HMMMM?

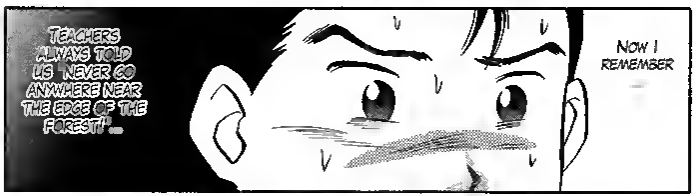
HEY, YA LITTLE PUNK !!
YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST GET AWAY WITH THIS!?

B—
BUT I APOLO-GIZED
APOLO-GIZED?
APOLO-GIZING ISN'T GONNA TAKE AWAY THIS STAIN YOU CAUSED

SCUM.
あはは
OR SHE CAN PAY WITH HER BODY TOO
HOW ABOUT YOU TAKE US TO YOUR HOUSE AND THEN WE'LL ASK MOMMY FOR THE MONEY?
THIS IS GONNA COST 100,000 YEN TO GET CLEANED

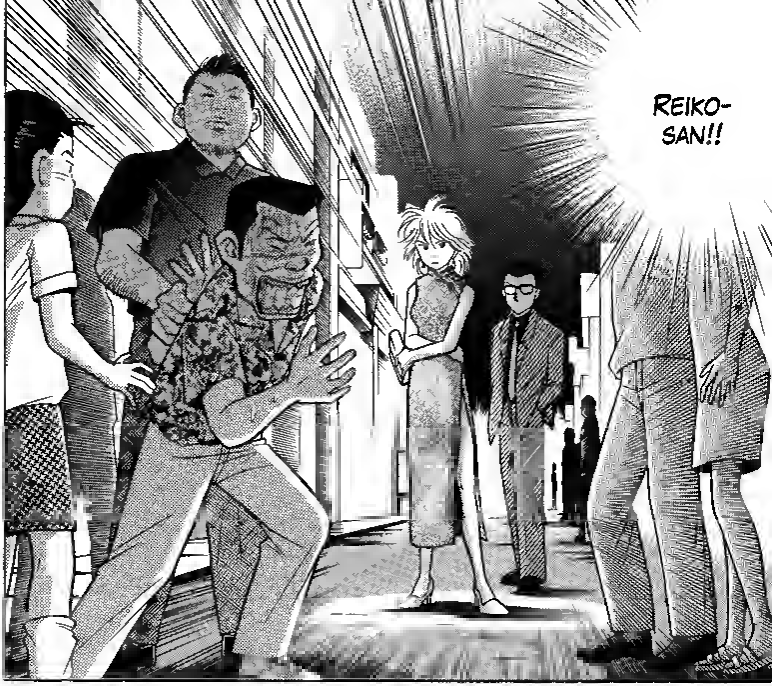
* Approx. 950 USD

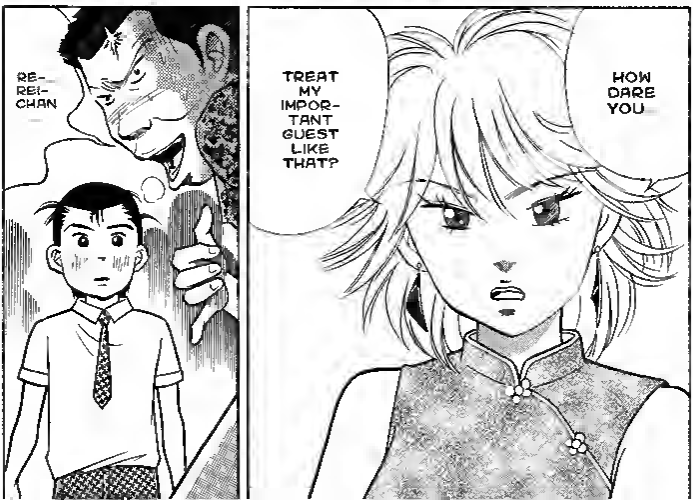
AH...
IT DOES COST 100,000
AT THE EDGE OF THE FOREST!
DON'T THINK YOU CAN MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME

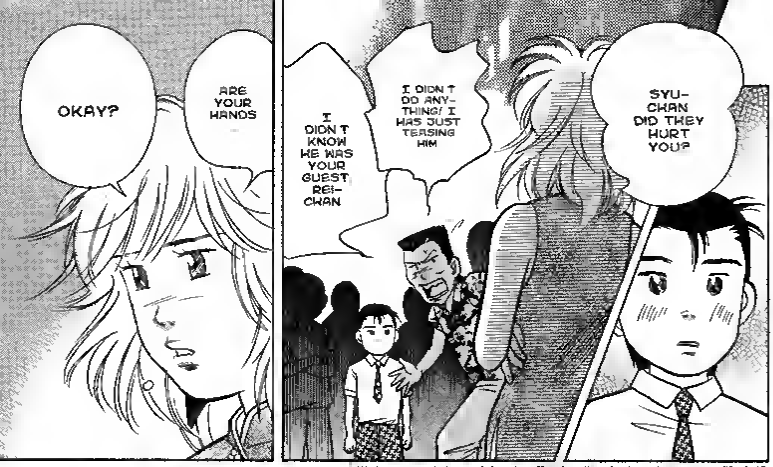

TEACHERS ALWAYS TOLD US "NEVER GO ANYWHERE NEAR THE EDGE OF THE FOREST!"...
NOW I REMEMBER

BUT I'M DIFFERENT NOW! I WON'T BE CONTROLLED BY SCUM LIKE HIM.
I... I WOULD'VE JUST BURSTED INTO TEARS AND LISTENED TO WHATEVER THAT GUY SAID UNTIL A WHILE AGO...
ONCE YOU'RE AT THE EDGE OF THE FOREST, YOU'VE GOTTA FOLLOW ITS RULES!

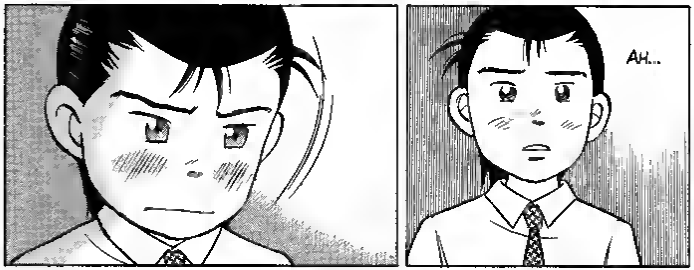
I'VE BECOME STRONGER !!
WHAT THE HELL IS WITH THAT LOOK !?
!?
RE-...
AH..

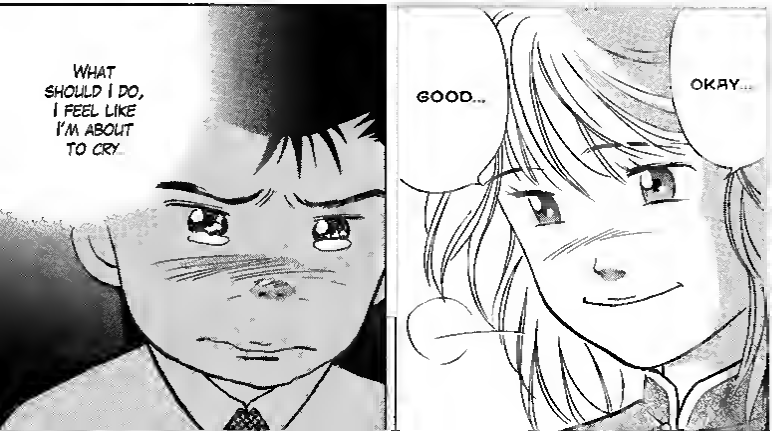

REIKO-SAN!!


RE-REI-CHAN
TREAT MY IMPOR-TANT GUEST LIKE THAT?
HOW DARE YOU


SYU-CHAN DID THEY HURT YOU?
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING! I WAS JUST TEASING HIM
I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS YOUR GUEST REI-CHAN
ARE YOUR HANDS
OKAY?

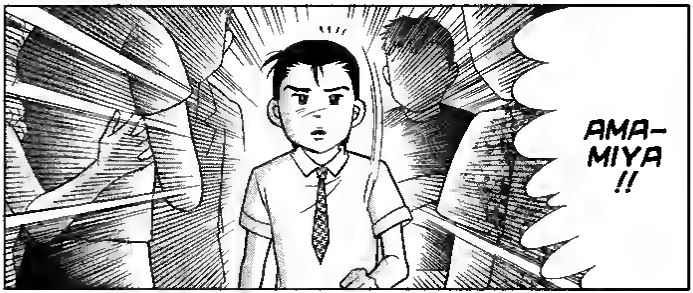
We have recently learned that the official spelling for Ammmiya's name is "Syuhei"





THIS IS KAI'S PRECIOUS FRIEND
DON'T BE AN IDIOT.
WHAT'S THIS REI-CHAN, ACCEPTING LITTLE KIDS AS GUESTS NOW TOO?
MAN, EVEN IF THE ECONOMY'S DOING BAD, YOU SHOULDN'T LET YOUR STANDARDS GO DOWN THE DRAIN. AH HA HA HA...
I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST SOME LOST RICH KID
OH YEAH, HE GOES TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, RIGHT?
HUH, KAI'S ...?
SYU-CHAN IS HERE. COME ON OUT!
KAI!
ワイワイ
暁
暁

AAAH


AMA-
MIYA
!!

KAI-
KUN.
エースエージェイアイエヌオー END

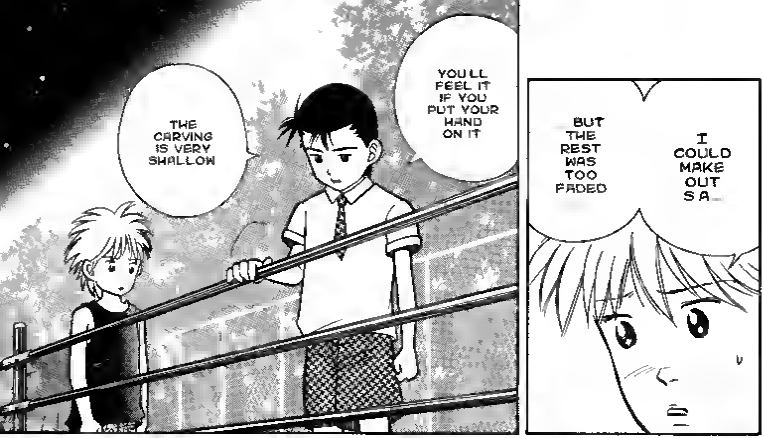
The Perfect World of KAI

scanned by doo
translated by ocean
edited by Aka
typeset and proofread by 'papa

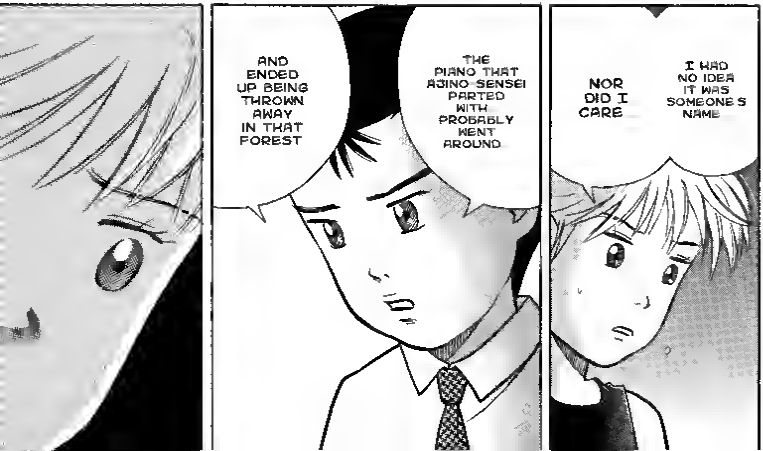
Chapter 28

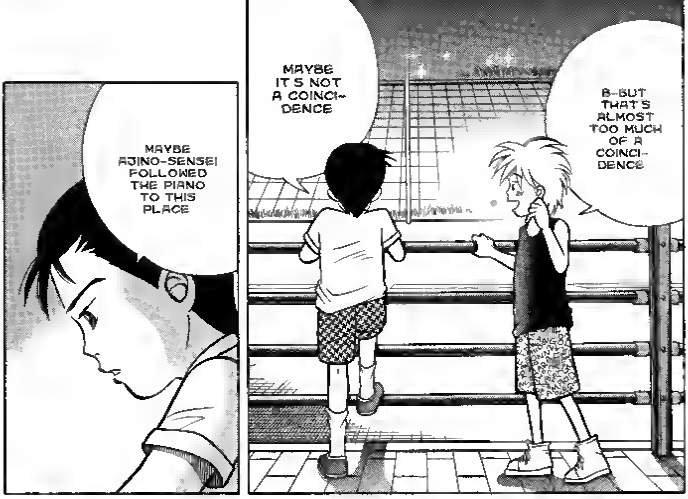
Give It our All...

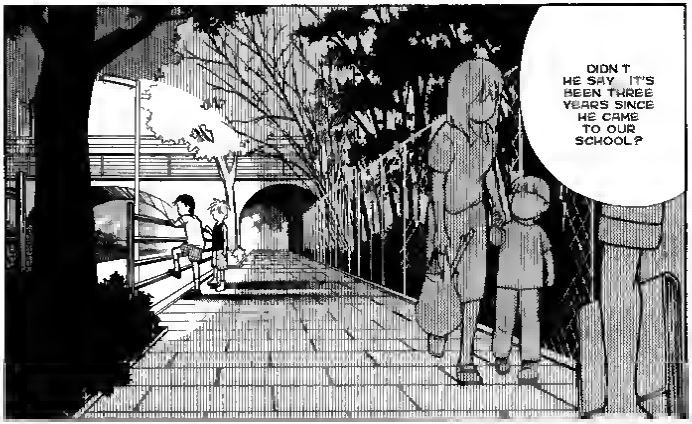
AJINO'S PIANO?
THAT PIANO IS...?
YOU REALLY DIDN'T KNOW?
AH...

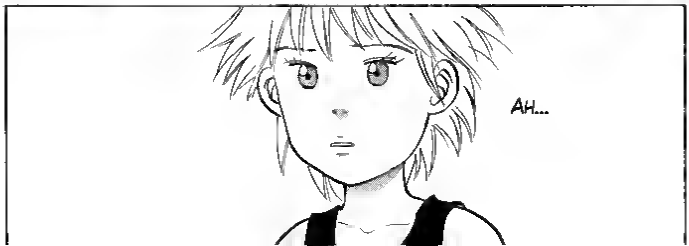

THE CARVING IS VERY SHALLOW
YOU'LL FEEL IT IF YOU PUT YOUR HAND ON IT
BUT THE REST WAS TOO FADED
I COULD MAKE OUT S.A_

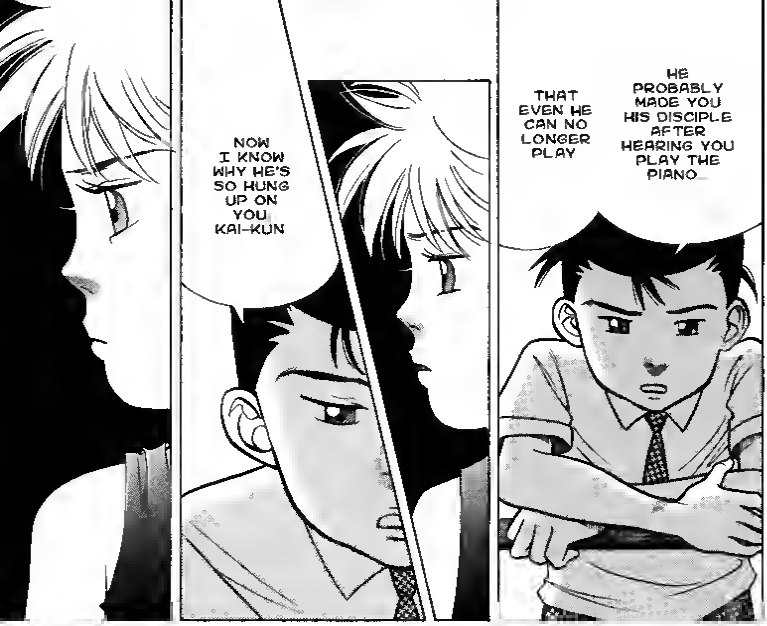
S.AJINO

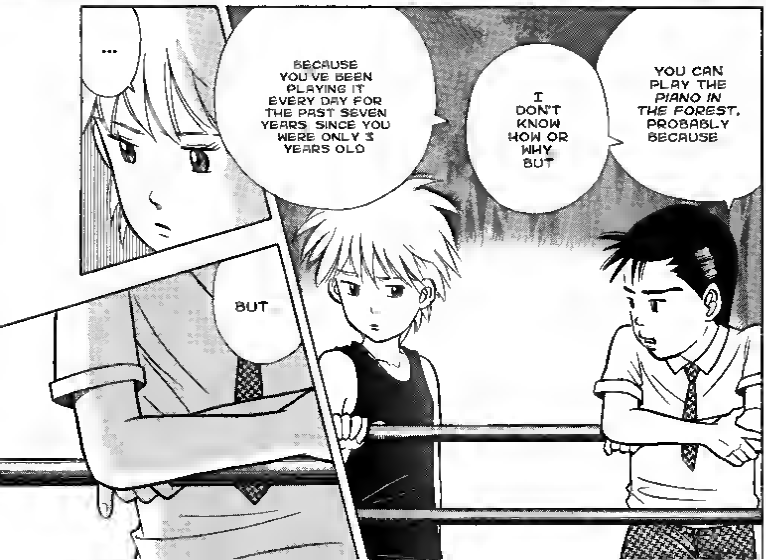

AND ENDED UP BEING THROWN AWAY IN THAT FOREST
THE PIANO THAT AJINO-SENSEI PARTED WITH PROBABLY WENT AROUND
NOR DID I CARE
I HAD NO IDEA IT WAS SOMEONE'S NAME


MAYBE AJINO-SENSEI FOLLOWED THE PIANO TO THIS PLACE
MAYBE IT'S NOT A COINCI-DENCE
B-BUT THAT'S ALMOST TOO MUCH OF A COINCI-DENCE


DIDN'T HE SAY IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE HE CAME TO OUR SCHOOL?

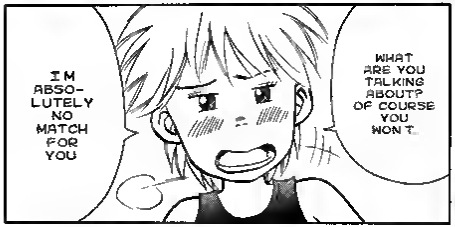

AH...


HE PROBABLY MADE YOU HIS DISCIPLE AFTER HEARING YOU PLAY THE PIANO...
THAT EVEN HE CAN NO LONGER PLAY
NOW I KNOW WHY HE'S SO HUNG UP ON YOU KAI-KUN


YOU CAN PLAY THE *PIANO IN THE FOREST*, PROBABLY BECAUSE
I DON'T KNOW HOW OR WHY BUT
BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING IT EVERY DAY FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS SINCE YOU WERE ONLY 3 YEARS OLD
BUT
...

BUT THAT'S WHY I WILL NEVER LOSE TO YOU, KAI-KUN

BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THE PIANO I'VE PLAYED ALMOST THE SAME AMOUNT AS YOU
THOUGH IT WAS JUST A NORMAL PIANO

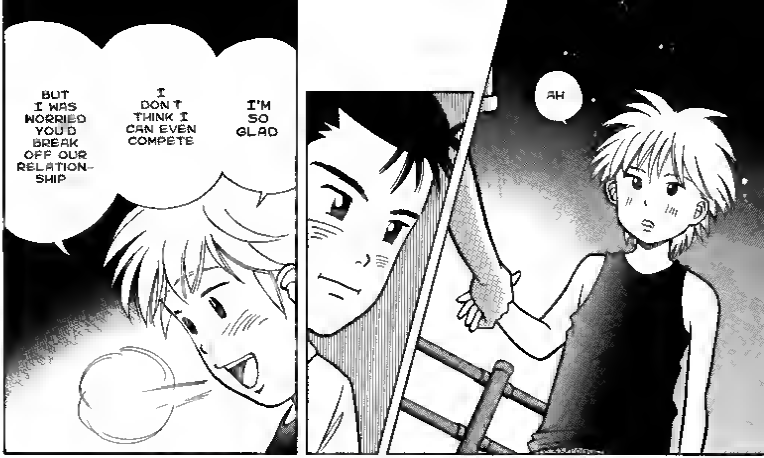

I'M ABSO-LUTELY NO MATCH FOR YOU
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? OF COURSE YOU WON'T.

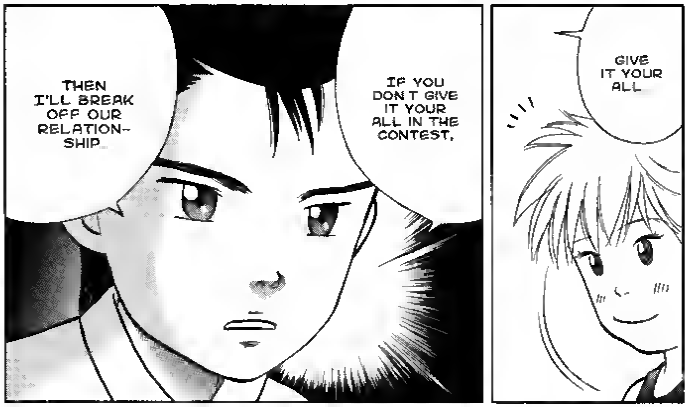
I HEARD YOU'RE ENTERING THE CON-TEST.

I HEARD THAT "AJINO-SENSEI'S STUDENT WILL ENTER THE CONTEST."
AH...
SO IT WAS YOU, KAI-KUN.

I WOULDN'T FEEL RIGHT IF YOU'D BE UPSET ABOUT IT SO I'VE GOTTA EXPLAIN
I WAS ABOUT TO EXPLAIN THAT!
THAT
NO WAY
UPSET? ME?
EH?
THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED
I'LL WELCOME IT WITH OPEN ARMS

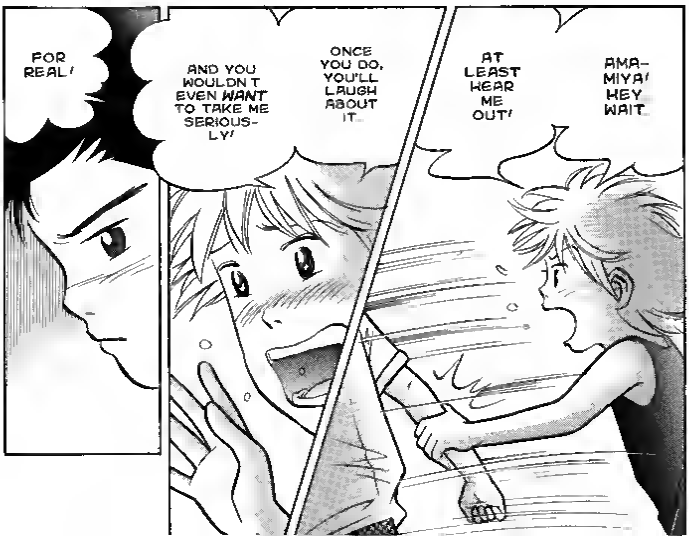
NOW WE CAN HAVE A REAL MATCH


AH
I'M SO GLAD
I DON'T THINK I CAN EVEN COMPETE
BUT I WAS WORRIED YOU'D BREAK OFF OUR RELATION-SHIP


GIVE IT YOUR ALL
IF YOU DON'T GIVE IT YOUR ALL IN THE CONTEST,
THEN I'LL BREAK OFF OUR RELATION-SHIP

!

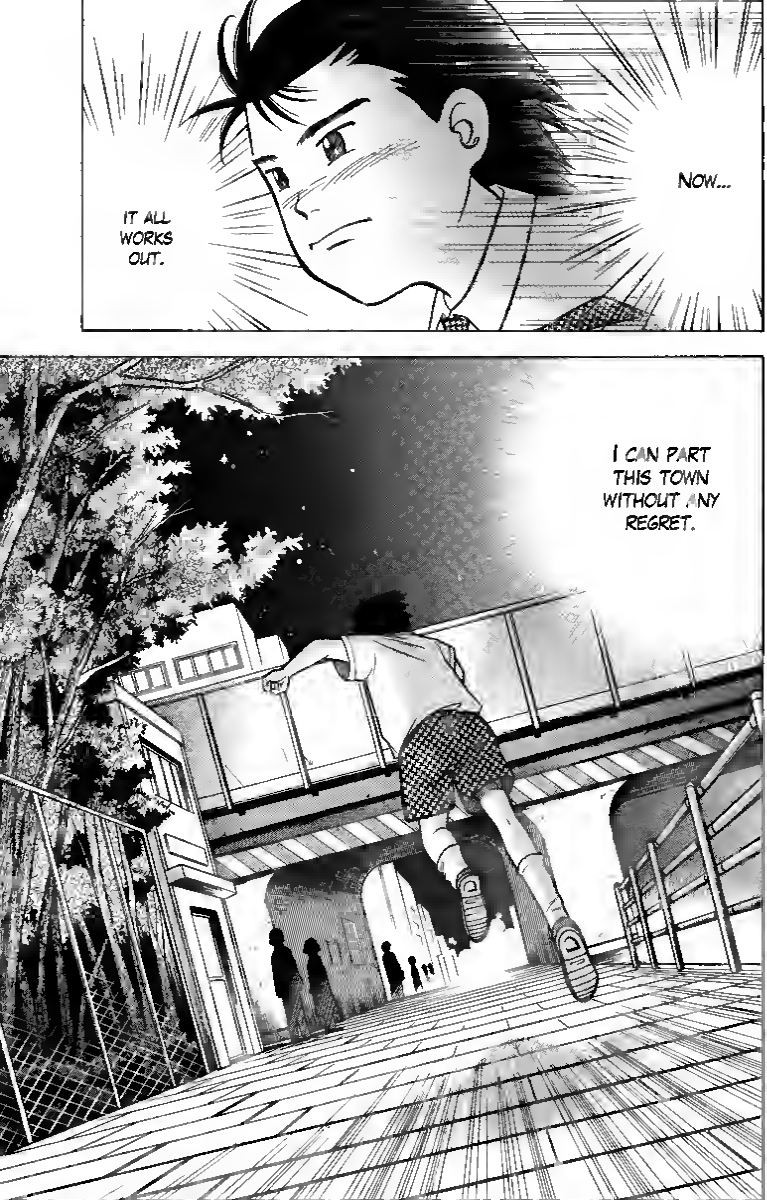
THANK YOU FOR SEEING ME
I'LL BE TAKING OFF...
AMA-MIYA

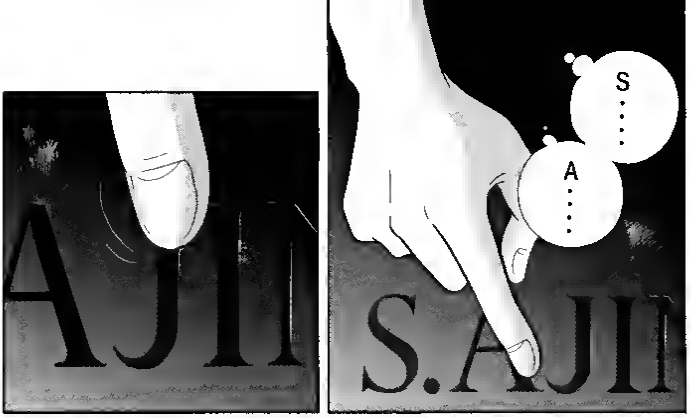

FOR REAL!
AND YOU WOULDN'T EVEN WANT TO TAKE ME SERIOUS-LY!
ONCE YOU DO, YOU'LL LAUGH ABOUT IT...
AT LEAST HEAR ME OUT!
AMA-MIYA! HEY WAIT...

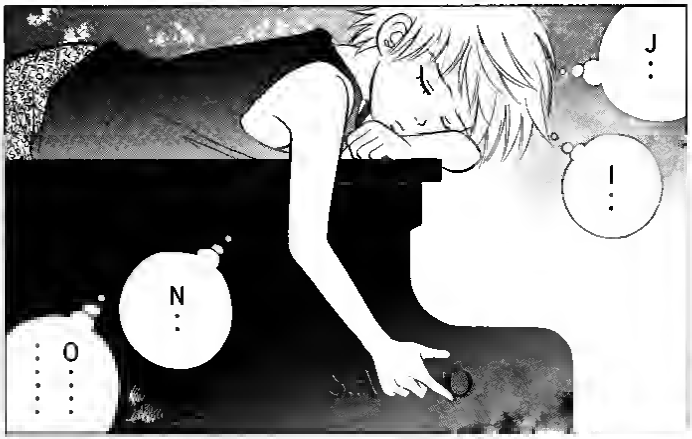
SEE! I TOLD YOU IT'S RIDICU-LOUS
I FIGURED YOU'D GET ANGRY BUT NOW YOU KNOW I'M NO MATCH FOR YOU RIGHT?
SO,
IT'S ALL THE SAME, KAI-KUN
NO MATTER WHAT THE REASON YOU'RE ENTERING THE CON-TEST ANYWAY
SO YOU SHOULD GIVE IT YOUR ALL

I THINK THAT'S THE MINIMUM RESPECT
...AMAMIYA...
TOWARDS THE CONTEST
TOWARDS ME...

WILL YOU PROMISE ME?
WHAT A MESS.
BUT...
OKAY.
LET'S GIVE IT OUR ALL.
— BUT I THINK WHAT AMAMIYA SAYS IS RIGHT.
ヒロア

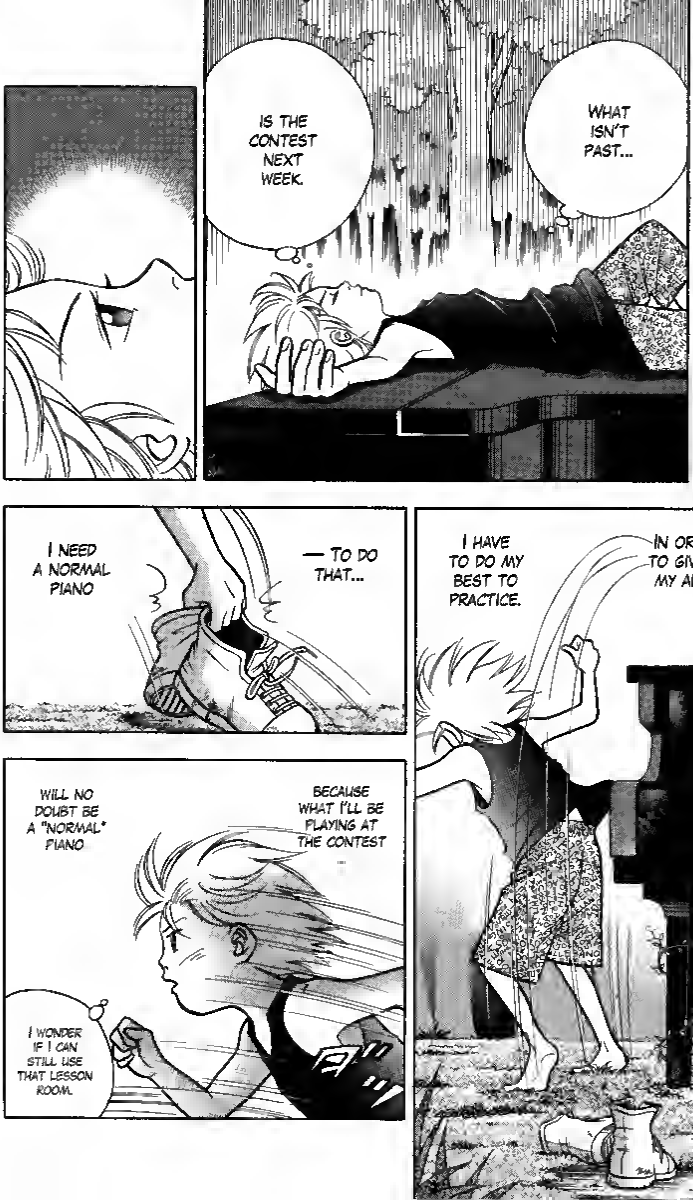

NOW...
IT ALL WORKS OUT.
I CAN PART THIS TOWN WITHOUT ANY REGRET.


S
A
AJI
S.AJI


J
I
N
O

THIS... REALLY WAS AJINO'S PIANO
ARGH, I WISH I DIDN'T KNOW.
NOW MY TREASURE IS CURSED.

NAH, IT DOESN'T MATTER
WHAT'S PAST IS PAST!!


IS THE CONTEST NEXT WEEK.
WHAT ISN'T PAST...
I NEED A NORMAL PIANO
— TO DO THAT...
I HAVE TO DO MY BEST TO PRACTICE.
IN ORDER TO GIVE IT MY ALL...
WILL NO DOUBT BE A "NORMAL" PIANO
BECAUSE WHAT I'LL BE PLAYING AT THE CONTEST
I WONDER IF I CAN STILL USE THAT LESSON ROOM.

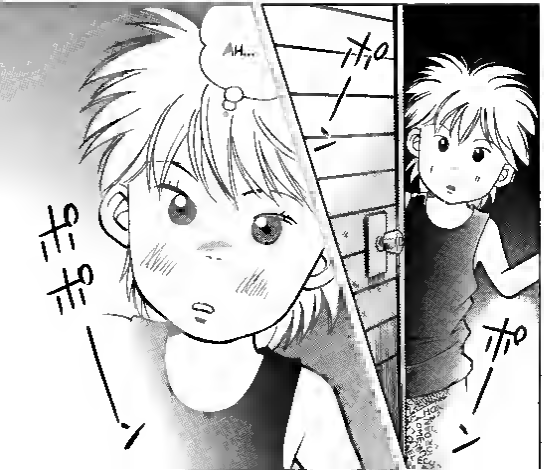
BUT IT'LL ONLY BE A WEEK !!
YOU'LL HAVE TO MISS ME FOR A WHILE

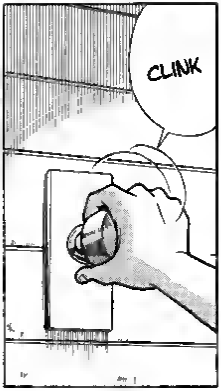
I'M REALLY JUST AN AMATEUR!
I ALSO ONLY HAVE A WEEK.
ISN'T AMAMIYA KINDA HARSH?
ア" ア" ア"

EVEN IF HE SAID THAT...
...
THOUGH, GIVING IT MY ALL...

...
ドクン
ドクン

THE LIGHTS ARE ON IN THE LESSON ROOM... EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

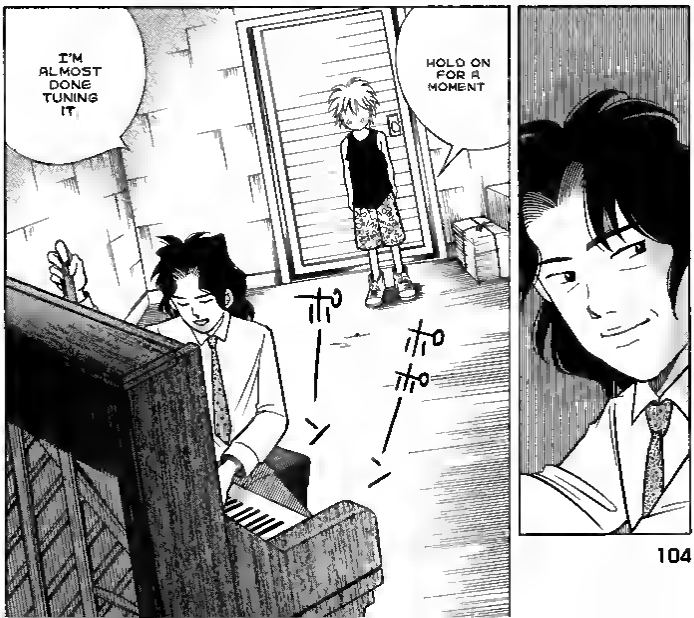

AH...


CLINK

ポーン
ポポーン
ポポーン
ポーン
AJINO?
ポ
ポポーン
ポポーン

AJINO'S TUNING THE PIANO...
ポーン ポーン
ICHINOSE.
ビクッ
IF YOU WANDER AROUND AT THIS HOUR
YOU WON'T MAKE IT TO SCHOOL TOMOR-ROW

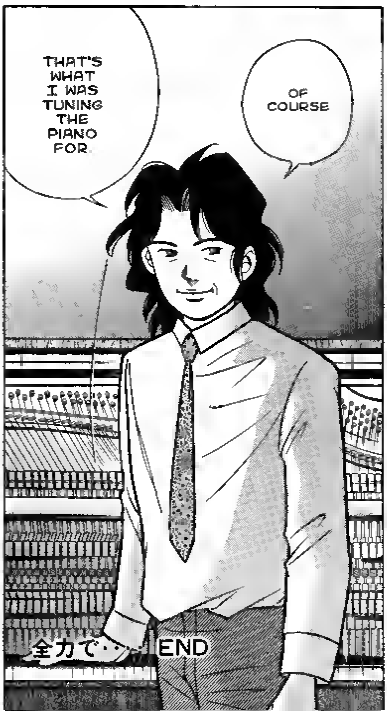
Y-YOU, TOO YOU HAVE SCHOOL TOMORROW TOO
YES
BUT MY CLASSES WON'T START UNTIL THE AFTER-NOON.
IT'S JUST A COINCI-DENCE THOUGH
SAME HERE
JUST A COINCI DENCE!

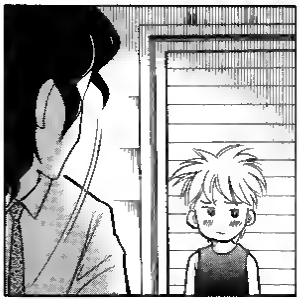

I'M ALMOST DONE TUNING IT
HOLD ON FOR A MOMENT

...
ポーン
ポーン
HEY, AOINO
THAT PIANO IN THE FOREST IS MY PIANO
YES, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME THAT
DON'T GRUMBLE AFTER-WARDS YOU THREW IT AWAY
HA HA
OKAY

SO THAT I CAN GIVE IT MY ALL IN THE CONTEST ?
WILL YOU LEND ME YOUR HAND

HEY, AOINO..


THAT'S WHAT I WAS TUNING THE PIANO FOR
OF COURSE
全力で…… END



WILL YOU LEND ME YOUR HAND?

THIS IS THE MUSIC SHEET.
Sonate
Assai Allegro
THE WAY I'M TAUGHT BY AJINO IS COMPLETELY APATHETIC...
AND THIS IS THE PERFORMED VERSION OF IT.
MOZART

PUSH
REC
BUT NONE-THELESS IT'S "MOZART'S PIANO SONATA IN F MAJOR K280"
SINCE IT'S AN OLD RECORDING THE SOUND ISN'T TOO GOOD
カチャ
カチャ
YES
IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN HOW I PLAY NOW.
MOZART
SONATEN 2
モーツァルト
!
HUH?
DID YOU PLAY THIS WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER ?
MOZART

THIS IS AJINO'S K280...
IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM HOW AMAMIYA PLAYED K280,
EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE SAME PIECE...
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH THERE IS A MYSTERIOUS STORY BEHIND THIS "K280"
PUSH
ALL THEY KNOW IS
BUT NO ONE KNOWS WHO THAT INDIVIDUAL IS
BEFORE HIS DEMISE, HE ASKED THIS MUSIC SHEET BE HANDED TO SOME SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL 200 YEARS LATER...
IT'S BEEN 200 YEARS SINCE MOZART PASSED AWAY...
...
MOZART

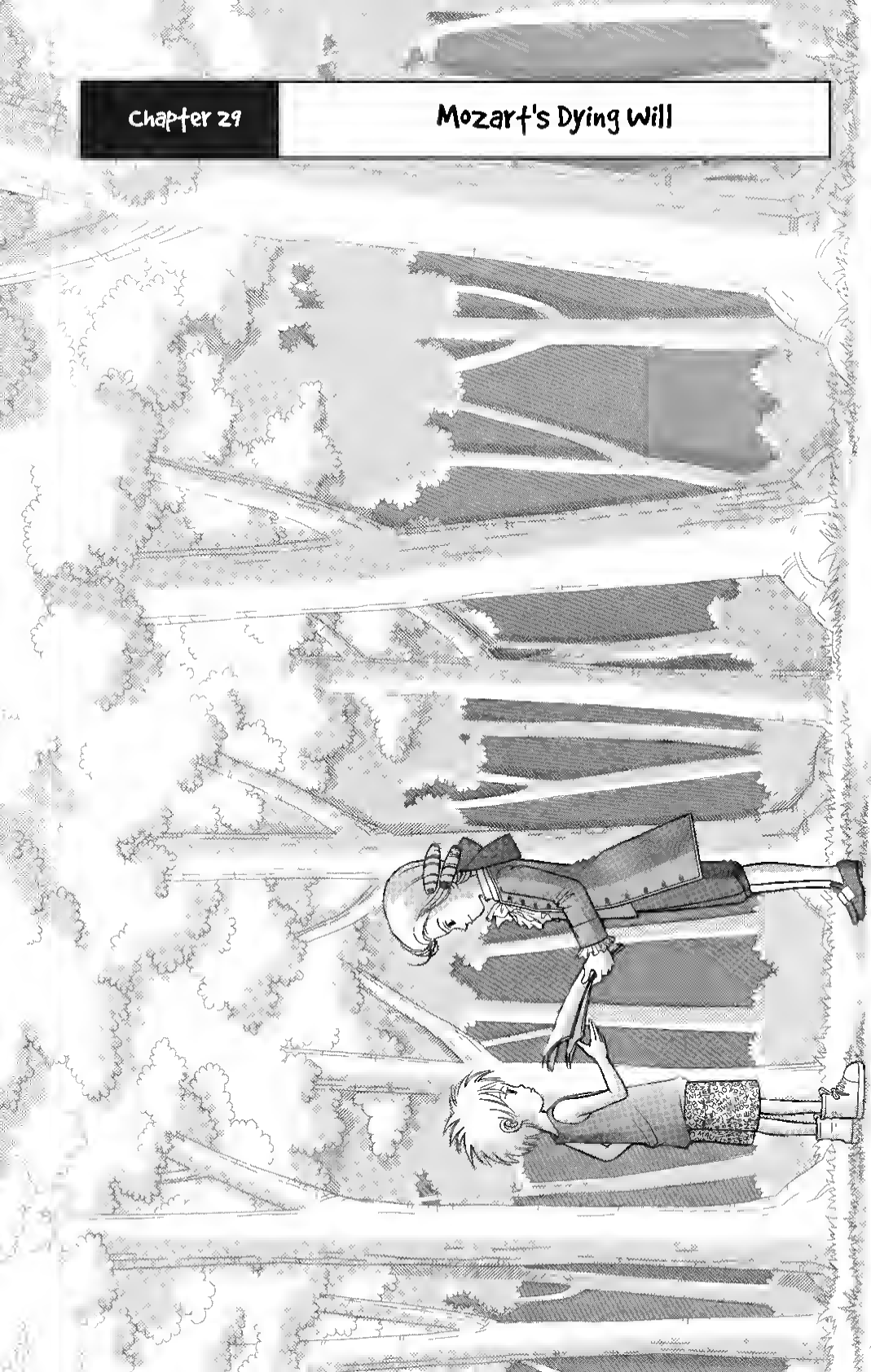
THAT INDIVIDUAL IS SOME-ONE WHO
LIVES IN A FOREST
HUH?
ICHINOSE KAI,
THAT'S YOU

MOZART ENTRUSTED THAT MUSIC SHEET A GOOD 200 YEARS AGO
MOZART

LET ME DELIVER MOZART'S WORDS
YOU
PLAY "K280!"
— AND HE LIES WITHOUT ANY HESITATION.

Chapter 29

Mozart's Dying Will



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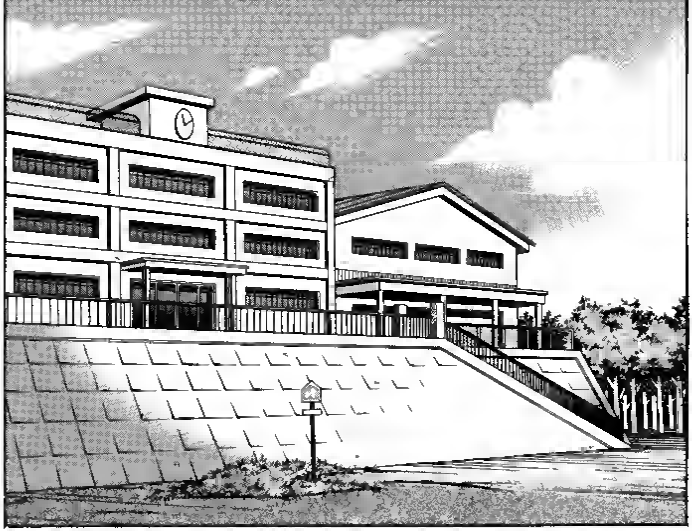
edited by Aki
typeset and proofread by bartguy



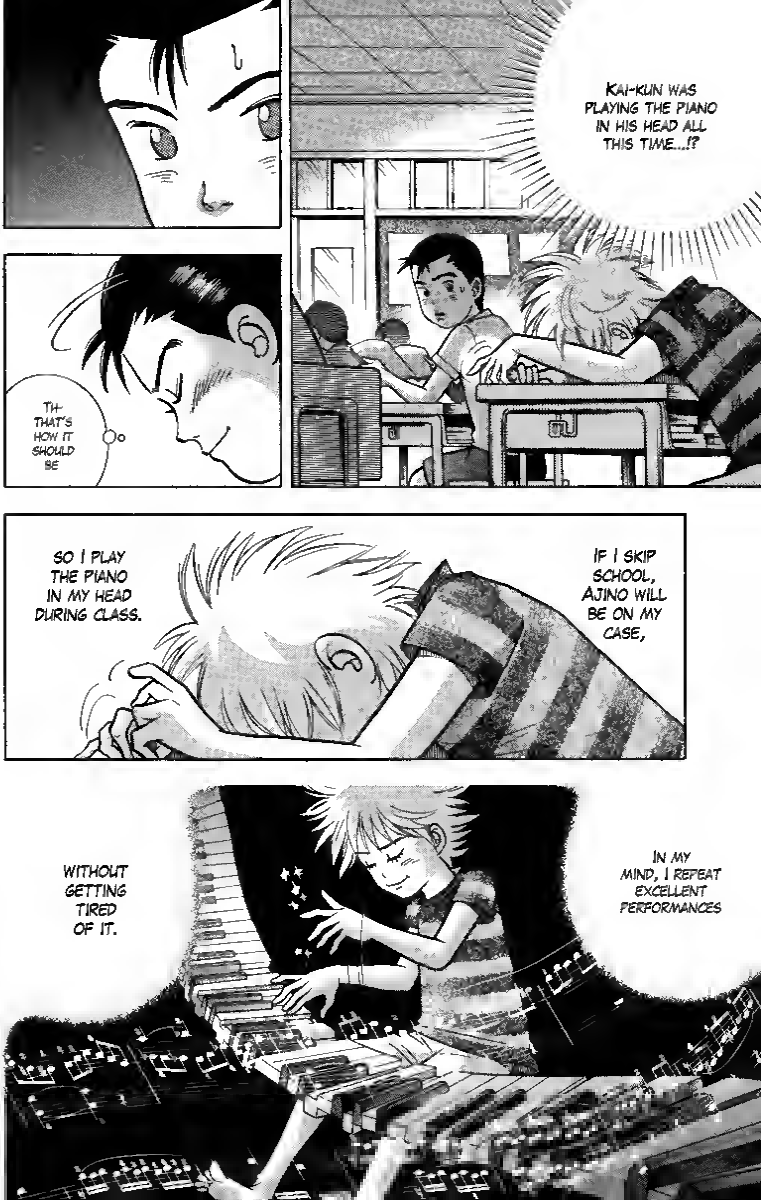
5の3
CAN YOU PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING PARA-GRAPH?
NEXT, ICHINOSE-KUN!

KAI! HEY YO, WAKE UP!
フッ!
ICHINOSE-KUN?
ARE YOU SLEEPING AGAIN?
国語

I THINK IT'S BETTER TO LET KAI-KUN SLEEP!
BOY
SENSEI!
YES, KANEHIRA-KUN.
SHIIGH
SO KAI IS HELPING THEM OUT BY PROSTI-TUTING WITHOUT SLEEP-ING
THE WHORE VILLAGE IS IN A DEPRESSION RIGHT NOW...
HUH?
THEN, KANEHIRA-KUN, YOU CAN READ FROM THE TEXTBOOK INSTEAD.
But its true what Im saying!!
YAAAY
KANEHIRA-KUN! DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO TALK LIKE THAT EVEN IF YOU'RE JOKING!?

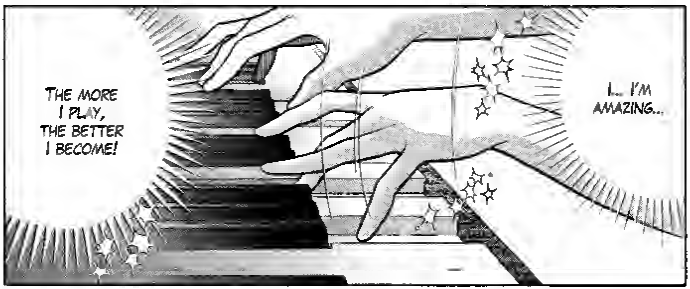
...
わはは...
YOU NEVER LEARN YOUR LESSON KINPIRA!
"HUH?" YOU IDIOT
YOU MUST BE PRACTICING FOR THE CONTEST WITHOUT SLEEPING, KAI-KUN.
HMM?
THAT'S HOW IT SHOULD BE!

HE'S PLAYING THE PIANO!!
IS HOLDING RHYTHM?
HIS FINGER...
AH...
HE...
HE WASN'T...
SLEEPING FOR NOTHING.


Kai-kun was playing the piano in his head all this time...!?
Th-that's how it should be
So I play the piano in my head during class.
If I skip school, Ajino will be on my case,
Without getting tired of it.
In my mind, I repeat excellent performances

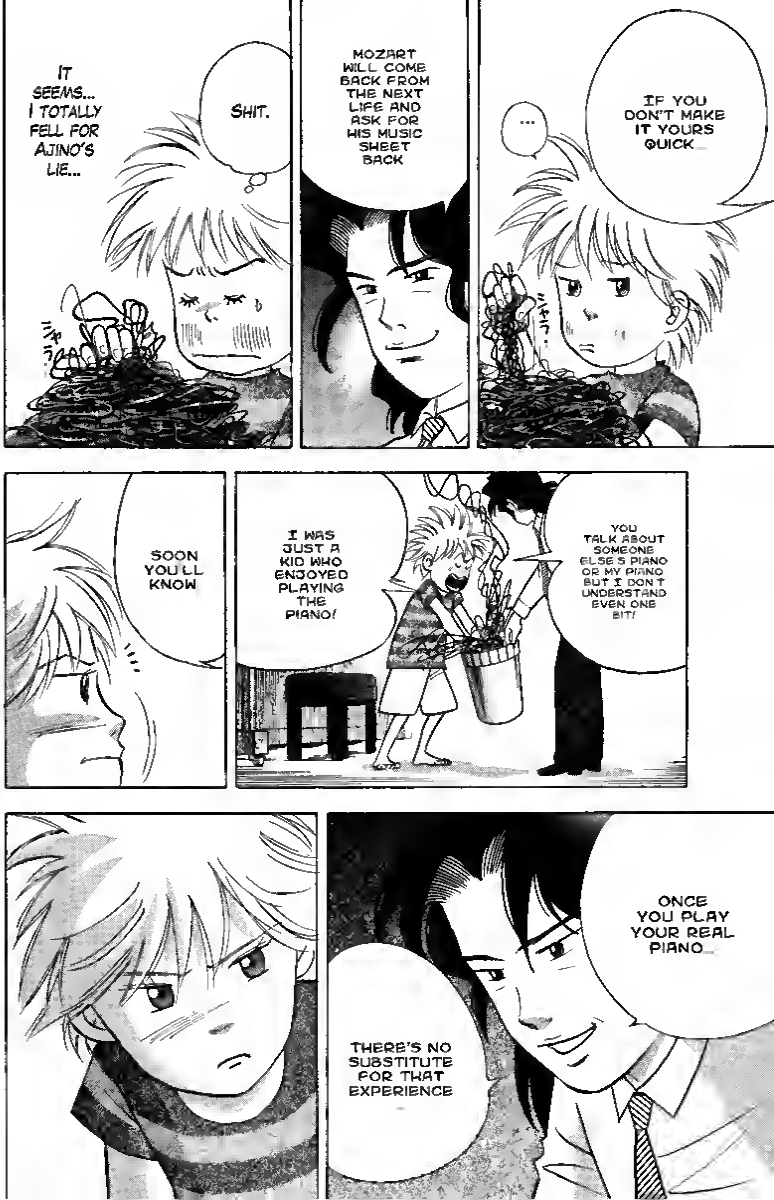
!?
— BUT...
IT'S JUST LIKE AJINO WHEN HE WAS YOUNG...
FOR SOME REASON, YOUNG MOZART COMES OUT ONCE IN A WHILE...
AND SAYS THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER.
ラ
ラ
ラ
YOU'RE STILL NOT UP TO PAR
WHY DON'T YOU RETURN THE MUSIC SHEET TO ME!?
WAKE UUUUUP !!
カ!!!

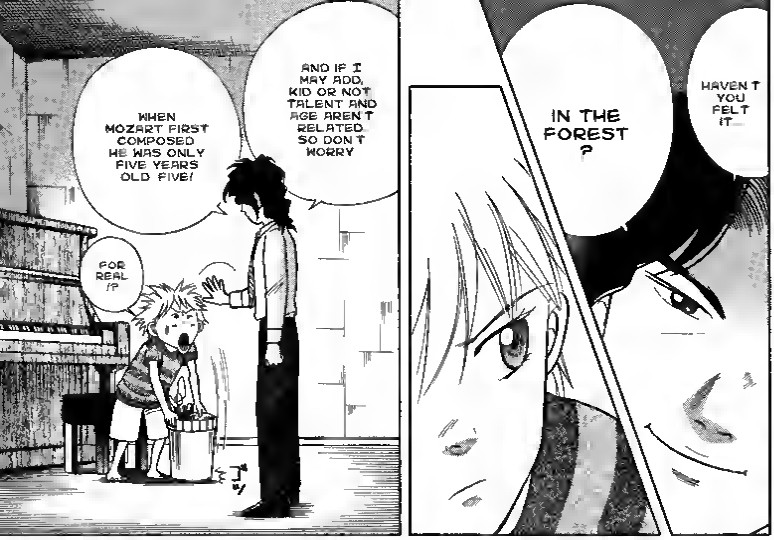
AH
SO I GOT IN A TOUGH SPOT!! HOW ARE YOU GONNA PAY FOR IT!?
YOU BAS-TAAARD!! YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING FOREVER
F-
!?
FAT MOZART
NO, I DIDN'T SAY FAT MOZZA-RELLA !!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, FAT MOZZA-RELLA !?
AH HA HA


THE MORE I PLAY, THE BETTER I BECOME!
I... I'M AMAZING...

HUH?
STOP RIGHT THERE!!
I DO IF IT HELPS ME PLAY GOOD!
DO YOU ENJOY COPYING OTHERS?
DON'T LIE
YOU'VE BECOME QUITE GOOD AT COPYING ME NOW
ICHINOSE...
YOU CAN TELL?
RETURN TO ME THE TAPE I GAVE YOU THE OTHER DAY.
GIVE IT BACK...

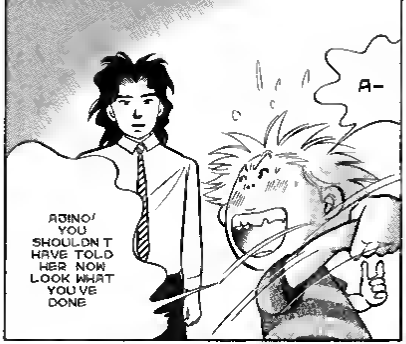
NEVER LISTEN TO THIS...
OPEN
RUSTLE RUSTLE
PLAY YOUR OWN PIANO
DON'T COPY DON'T PLAY ANYONE ELSE'S PIANO
AGAIN!
"!
AAAAH!! MY PRECIOUS TAPE!!
PLAY YOUR OWN "K280."
THAT'S ALL AJINO SAYS
...
FFFFUU FFFUU!!


IT SEEMS... I TOTALLY FELL FOR AJINO'S LIE...
SHIT.
MOZART WILL COME BACK FROM THE NEXT LIFE AND ASK FOR HIS MUSIC SHEET BACK
...
IF YOU DON'T MAKE IT YOURS QUICK...
SOON YOU'LL KNOW
I WAS JUST A KID WHO ENJOYED PLAYING THE PIANO!
YOU TALK ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE'S PIANO OR MY PIANO BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND EVEN ONE BIT!
ONCE YOU PLAY YOUR REAL PIANO...
THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THAT EXPERIENCE


HAVEN'T YOU FELT IT...
IN THE FOREST?
AND IF I MAY ADD, KID, OR NOT TALENT AND AGE AREN'T RELATED. SO DON'T WORRY
WHEN MOZART FIRST COMPOSED HE WAS ONLY FIVE YEARS OLD FIVE!
FOR REAL!?

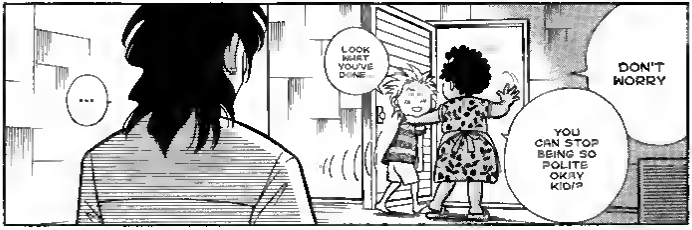
AAAH, HERE YOU ARE!!

HEY, YOUR TEACHER TOLD ME
THAT YOU'RE GONNA BE IN A PIANO CONTEST!?

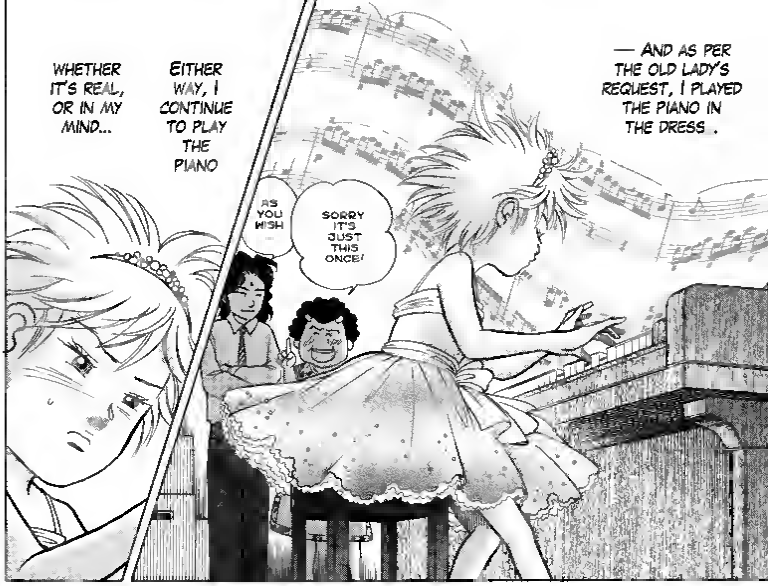

A-
AOINO! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD HER. NOW LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE

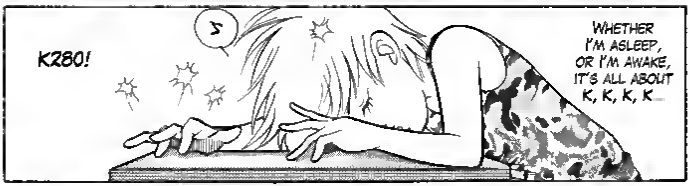
WHAT GOOD TIMING. LET ME GIVE YOU THE OUTFIT YOU'LL BE WEARING IN THE CONTEST AS A GIFT!!
AH NO THAT'S OKAY!

HA HA...
SOMETIMES IT'S BEST TO ACCEPT A FAVOR WITH SILENCE

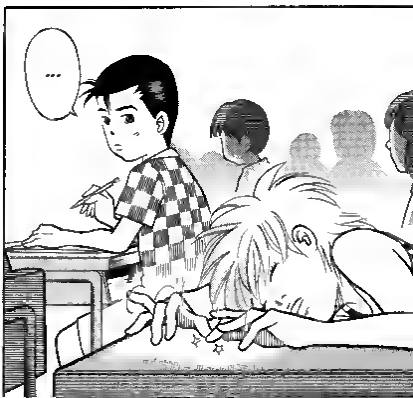

...
LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE...
DON'T WORRY
YOU CAN STOP BEING SO POLITE OKAY KID!?

I BOUGHT IT FOR MY DAUGHTER A LONG TIME AGO BUT SHE ONLY TRIED IT ON ONCE SO IT'S AS GOOD AS NEW!!
IT LOOKS GREAT ON YOU!! I'M GLAD IT DIDN'T GO TO THE WASTE!!
WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT. IT'S PER-FECT!!
BUT HE'S A BOY...
ERM WE APPRECIATE THE THOUGHT
WHAAAAAAT!?
DO YOU NEED TO SEE MY DICK OLD LADY?
OH MY I TOTALLY THOUGHT YOU WERE A GIRL...


WHETHER IT'S REAL, OR IN MY MIND...
EITHER WAY, I CONTINUE TO PLAY THE PIANO
AS YOU WISH
SORRY IT'S JUST THIS ONCE!
— AND AS PER THE OLD LADY'S REQUEST, I PLAYED THE PIANO IN THE DRESS .

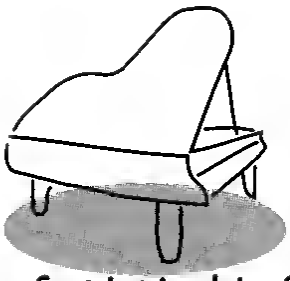

K280!
WHETHER I'M ASLEEP, OR I'M AWAKE, IT'S ALL ABOUT K, K, K, K...

YET, THE YOUNG MOZART STILL COMES...


...

THERE'S FAT MOZART...
GIVE ME THE MUSIC SHEET BACK!
SOUNDS AWFUL!
GIVE ME THE MUSIC SHEET BACK.
STILL NOT GOOD ENOUGH.
GIVE IT BACK!! GIVE IT BACK!! GIVE IT BACK!!
THERE ARE MANY MOZARTS!
CRYBABY MOZART...
FIVE.
— IN THE END, WITHOUT FINDING MY OWN PIANO...
SHUT UP YOU FRIGGIN BAS-TARDS !!

モーツァルトの遺言 END



The Perfect World of KAI

Chapter 30

The Morning of the Contest

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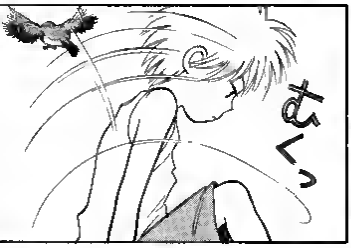
translated by:
edited by:
typeset and proofread by:

— IN THE END, WITHOUT FINDING MY OWN PIANO ..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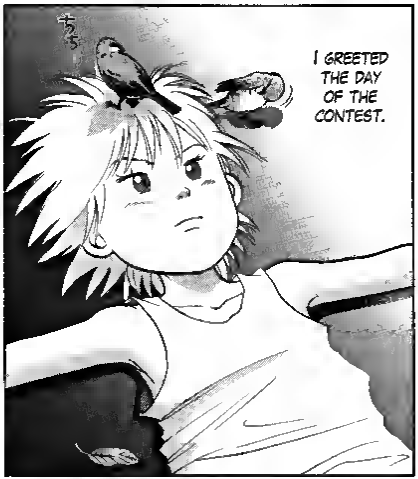
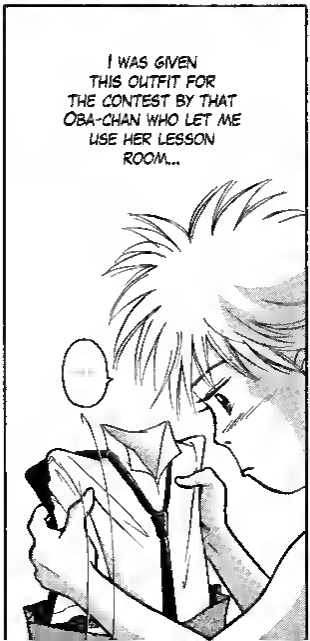
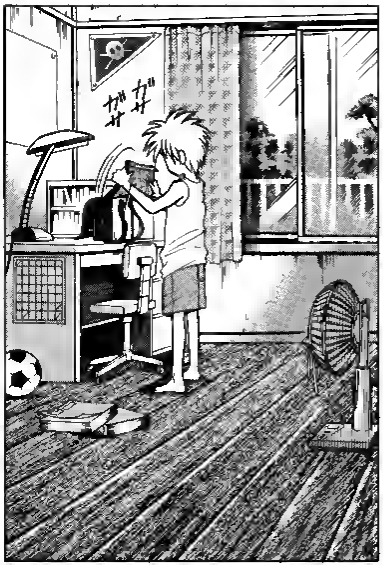

I GREETED THE DAY OF THE CONTEST.

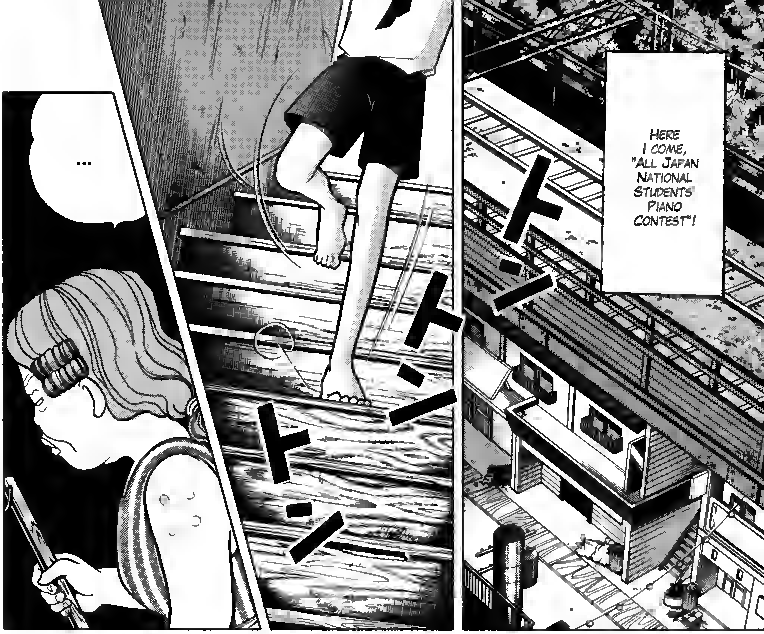
AM I GONNA DO?
WHAT...

I'LL JUST PLAY IT!
SHIT,
MY OPPONENT IS "MOZART!"
THERE'S NO USE BREAKING MY HEAD OVER IT.


I WAS GIVEN THIS OUTFIT FOR THE CONTEST BY THAT OBA-CHAN WHO LET ME USE HER LESSON ROOM...



THOUGH, EVEN IF I WEAR SOMETHING NICE...
はぁう
I MADE SURE IT'S A BOY'S OUTFIT THIS TIME!
YOU NEED TO LOOK YOUR VERY BEST!
NO THAT'S OKAY REALLY!
IT DIDN'T COST MUCH ANYWAY!
YOU SILLY BOY YOU'RE NEVER GONNA WIN BY ACTING SO RESERVED!
あはは
あはは
OH IS THAT SO?
OH SHIT, I'M GONNA BE LATE


...
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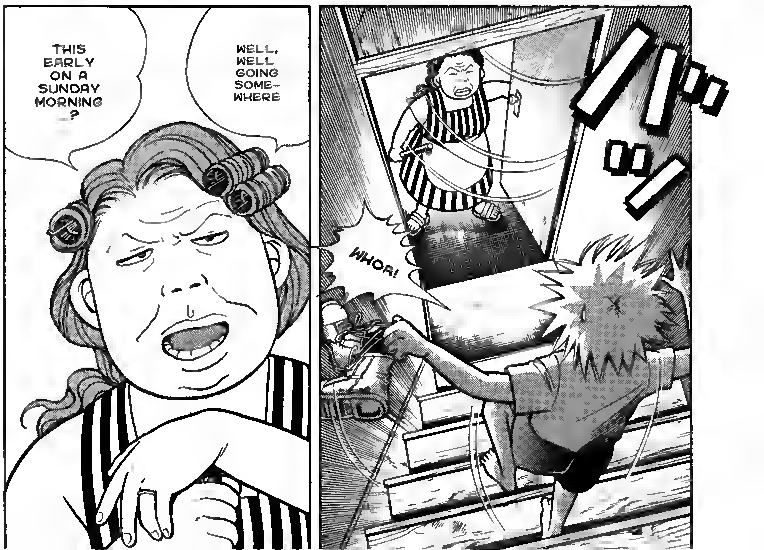
HERE I COME, "ALL JAPAN NATIONAL STUDENTS' PIANO CONTEST"!


THIS EARLY ON A SUNDAY MORNING —?
WELL, WELL GOING SOME-WHERE
WHOA!
ハッ

LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT I HAVE NO INTENTIONS OF HANDING OUT FREE MEALS AROUND HERE!
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DOING ANY OF YOUR CHORES THIS ENTIRE WEEK WHAT WERE YOU SNEAKING AROUND FOR?
OH CRAP...
HMPH!
I'LL DO THEM WHEN I COME BACK!
I KNOW
IT WON'T WORK THAT WAY.

!!
YOU'RE GONNA MAKE UP FOR ALL THE TIME YOU WASTED SLACKING OFF!
I WON'T LET YOU GO OUTSIDE EVEN FOR A SECOND

I DON'T HAVE TIME TO GET SCOLDED BY THIS OLD HAG. .
DON'T TELL ME YOU STOLE CASH FROM THE REGIS-
EVEN SHE LOOKS LIKE MOZART.

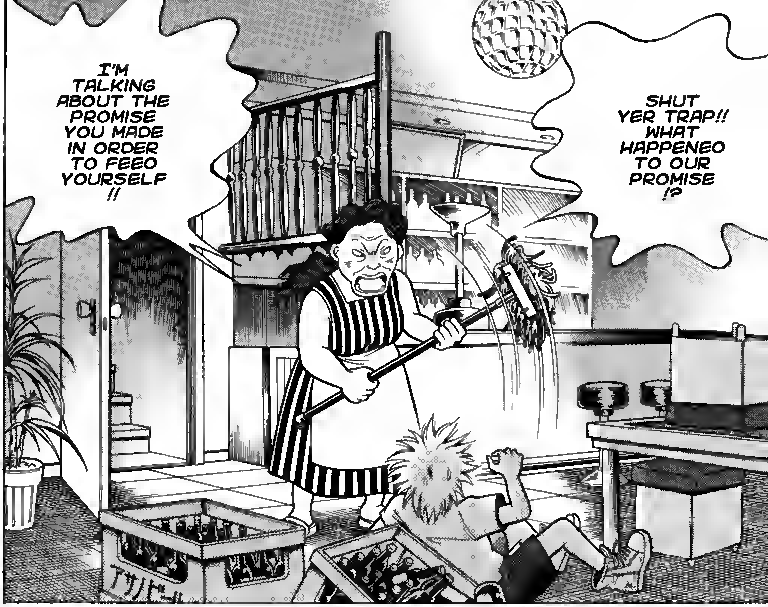
I DON T KNOW WHERE YOU PLAN ON GOING WITH THAT FANCY GET-UP BUT

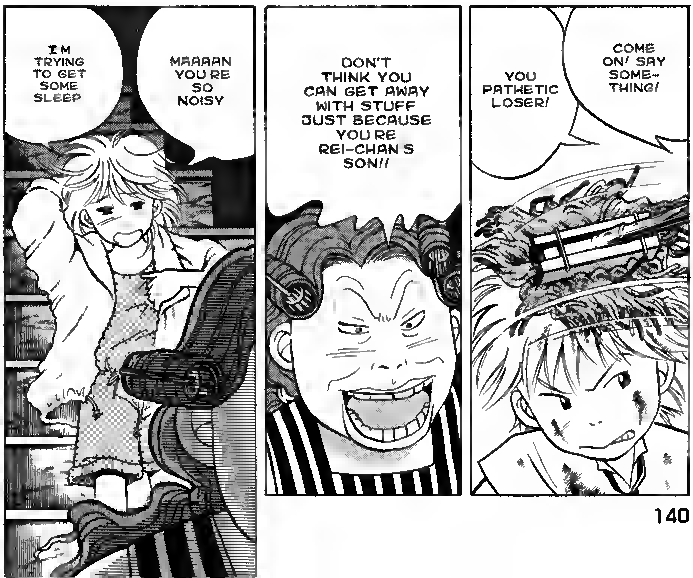
SHE'S SUCH A PAIN THESE ARE MY BEST CLOTHES!
BESIDES WHERE DID YOU GET IT ANYWAY?

I TOLD YOU YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, DIDN'T I?!
BAR
暁
カッ
カラカラ

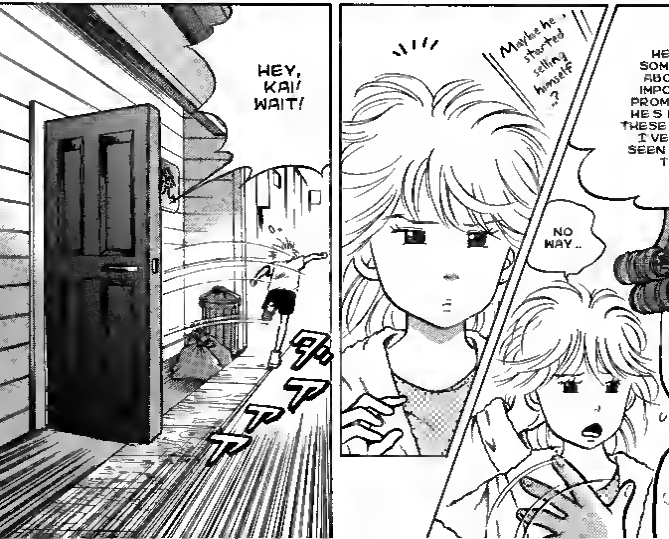
I TOLD YOU I'LL DO MY CHORES WHEN I COME BACK!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME, YOU HAG!!

I HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT PROMISE TO KEEP!


I'M TALKING ABOUT THE PROMISE YOU MADE IN ORDER TO FEED YOURSELF !!
SHUT YER TRAP!! WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR PROMISE !?


I'M TRYING TO GET SOME SLEEP
MAAAAN YOU'RE SO NOISY
DON'T THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH STUFF JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE REI-CHAN'S SON!!
YOU PATHETIC LOSER!
COME ON! SAY SOME-THING!

THIS IS NO TIME TO CATCH YOUR BEAUTY SLEEP!
KAI IS TRYING TO GO OUT WITHOUT DOING HIS CHORES
HUUH ?
こそ
お…っと
REI-CHAN!
CRAP!
THIS IS BAD!

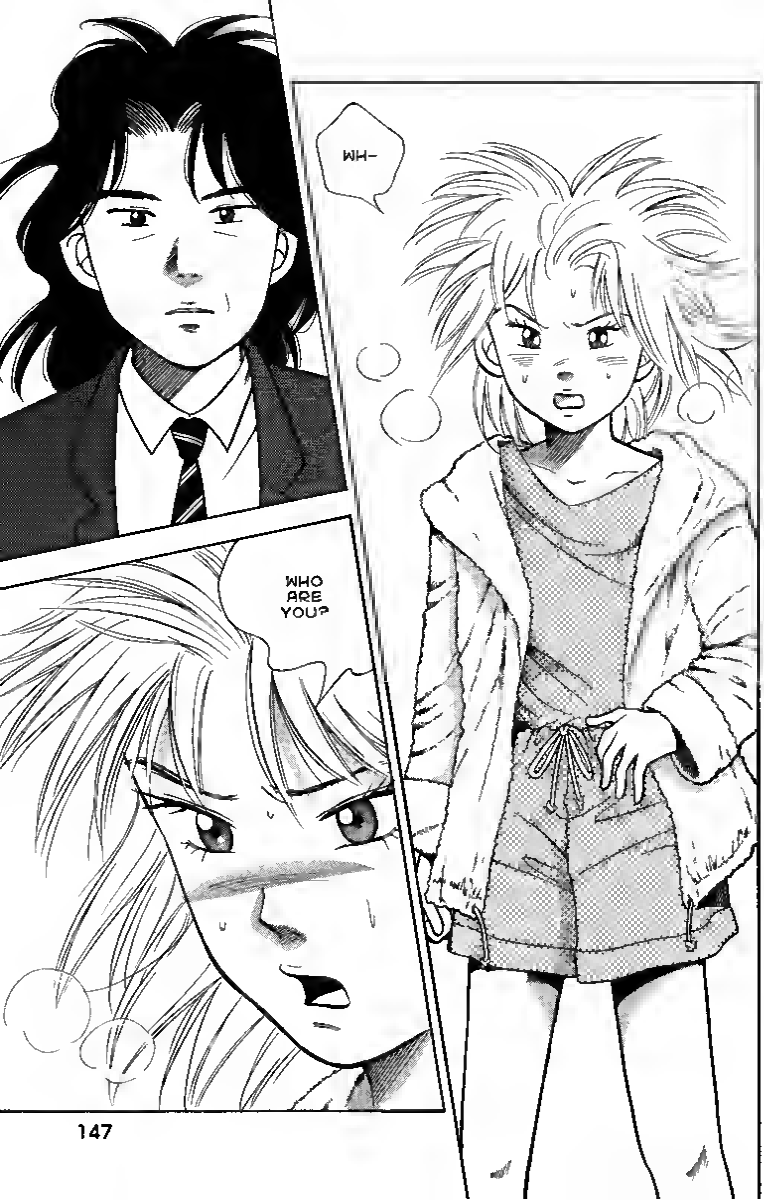

HEY, KAI! WAIT!
ダアアア
Maybe he started selling himself ?
HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT AN IMPORTANT PROMISE, AND HE'S WEARING THESE CLOTHES I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE TOO...
NO WAY...

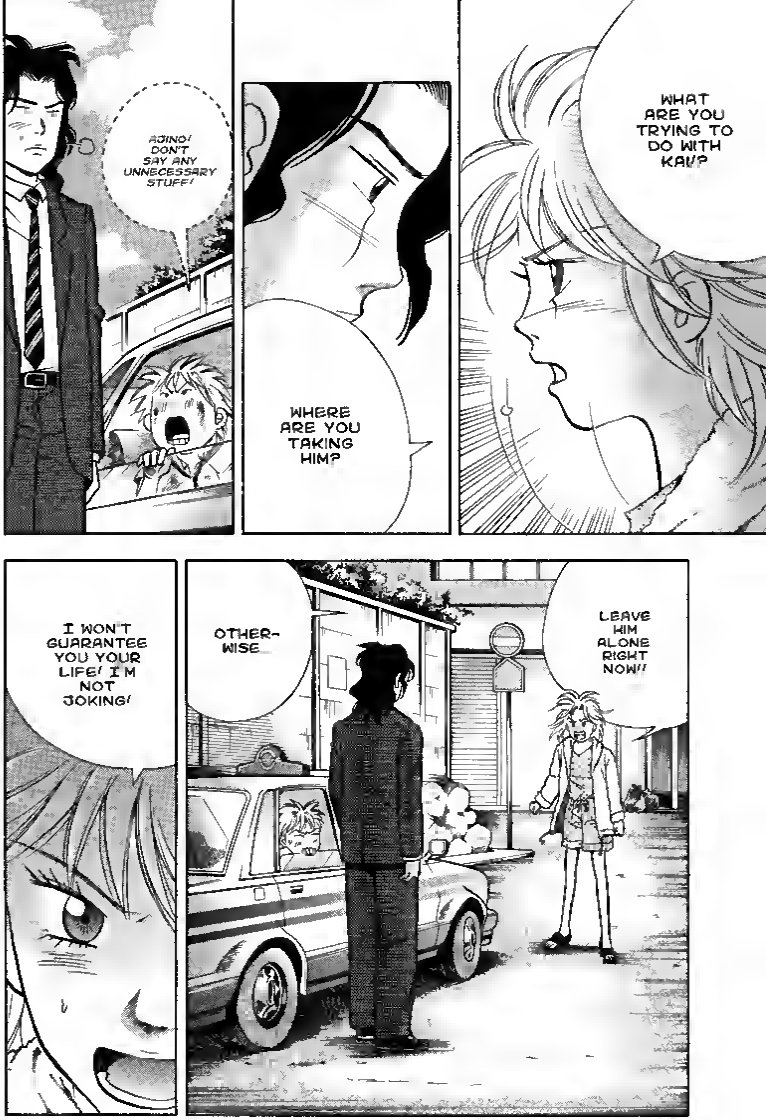
...HE'S LATE...
バタバタ
ダヨ!-NOOO!

YOU'RE LOOKING A BIT DIRTY, AREN'T YOU?
HURRY, HURRY!!
AJINO! START THE CAR, QUICK!!
AH!
ICHI-NOSE WHO'S THAT GIRL?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HURRY UP AJINO!
TAXI 55
14-38
AH!

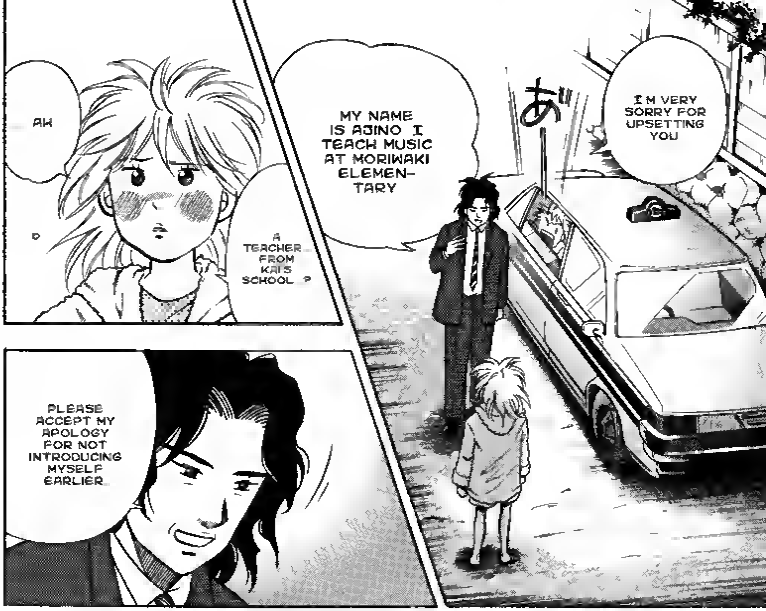
WAAAIT !!
HEEEY !!
REI-CHAN ?
R-REI-CHAN...
AH
MY MOM
SHE'S REI-CHAN
HUH?

...
MOTHER...?
ICHINOSE'S...
REI-CHAN'S GONNA CATCH UP TO US!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? GET IN RIGHT NOW!
YOU IDIOT, AOINO!
SHOOT
HEY, YOU!!

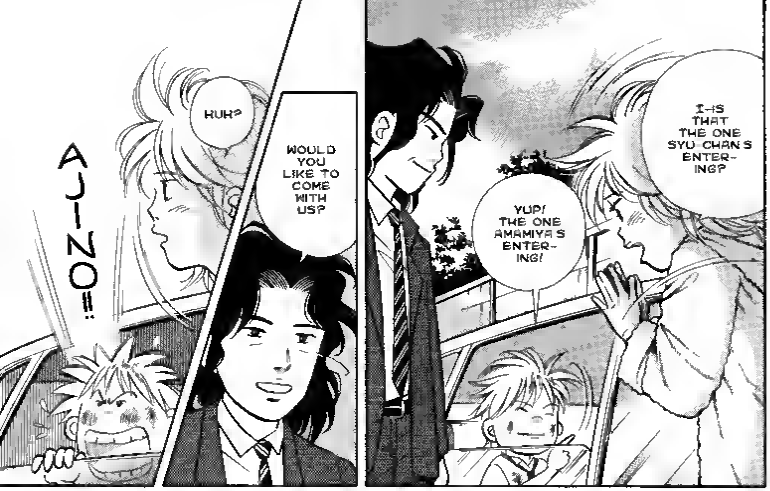

WH-
WHO ARE YOU?

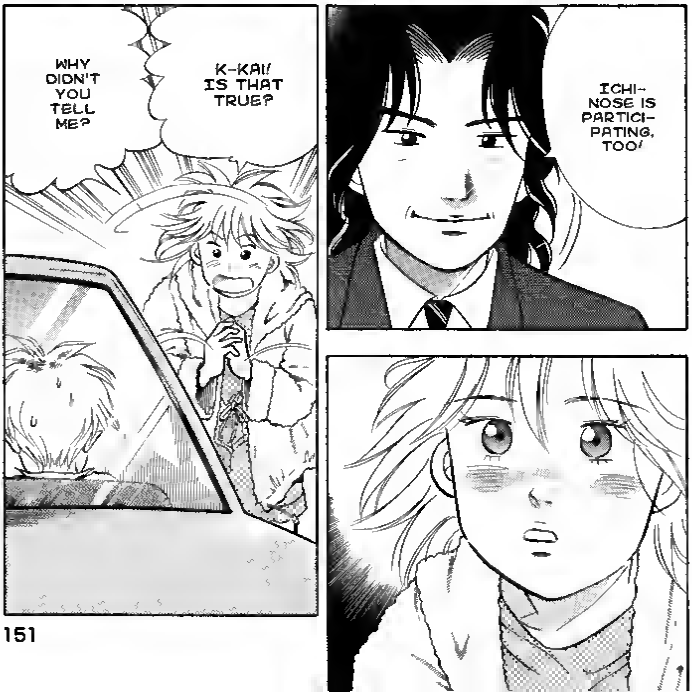

AOINO! DON'T SAY ANY UNNECESSARY STUFF!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM?
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO WITH KAI?
I WON'T GUARANTEE YOU YOUR LIFE! I'M NOT JOKING!
OTHER-WISE...
LEAVE HIM ALONE RIGHT NOW!!

HEY! WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING!? WHO ARE YOU!?
SHE'S JUST BLUFFING DON'T MIND HER
WHA-
DON'T SAY ANY-THING, AJINO
WHAT ?


AH
A TEACHER FROM KAI'S SCHOOL ?
MY NAME IS AJINO I TEACH MUSIC AT MORIWAKI ELEMEN-TARY
I'M VERY SORRY FOR UPSETTING YOU
PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGY FOR NOT INTRODUCING MYSELF EARLIER

I TOLD KAI TO GET PERMISSION FROM A PARENT
CRAP
BUT I GUESS YOU WEREN'T INFORMED
THE TRUTH IS, I'M TRYING TO BRING ICHINOSE TO CENTRAL RESIDENT HALL FOR THE PIANO CONTEST
AH
PIANO CONTEST ?


AJINO!!
HUH?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME WITH US?
I-IS THAT THE ONE SYU CHAN'S ENTERING?
YUP! THE ONE AMAMIYA'S ENTERING!


WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?
K-KA!! IS THAT TRUE?
ICHINOSE IS PARTICIPATING, TOO!

MM-HMM!
REALLY HAPPY...
YOU'D BE HAPPY, RIGHT?
CAUSE IF I TOLD YOU,
SEE! THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU
IT'S NOT SOMETHING TO BE HAPPY ABOUT
ISSEKI
Ah ha ha...
Kya ha...
ISSEKI

KU!!!!!
KAI! HOLD ON JUST A BIT LONGER!
Ah ha ha...
I'VE SEEN SOMEONE WASHING A DOG HERE BEFORE BUT
YEAH IT'S FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN IT DONE TO A PERSON!
REI-CHAN, THE WATER IT'S TOO STRONG !!
JUST BEAR WITH IT!
AT LEAST THIS WAY YOU'LL BE CLEAN
Sgnl Staff Room
職員室
AND NOT JUST SOME HIGH SCHOOLER OR BORED HOUSEWIFE WHORING AROUND, EITHER
YEAH IT'S THE "EDGE OF THE FOREST"
A PROSTI-TUTE MAN A PROSTI-TUTE!
ICHINOSE'S MOTHER IS A REAL HUSSY
あはは

YET STILL ICHINOSE IS
...

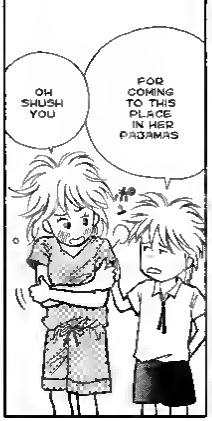
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN GRASP THE MEANING
EVEN IF SHE'S A MOTHER I'M SURE SHE JUST GAVE BIRTH TO A CHILD WITHOUT KNOWING THE FATHER

I'M SORRY I'M SORRY BUT THIS WAY YOU'LL BE DRY IN NO TIME!
REALLY LOVED BY HIS MOTHER.
YOU ALWAYS DO THINGS TOO ROUGH REI-CHAN
ジャバジャバジャバ

OH RIGHT WE HAD MORE TOWELS INSIDE
WHY DIDN'T THEY TELL US THAT EARLIER?
HEY, HOLD ON. YOU'RE STILL WEARING YOUR PAJAMAS!
THESE AREN'T REALLY PAJAMAS.
BUT YOU ALWAYS WEAR THOSE TO SLEEP!
THAT'S WHAT PAJAMAS ARE!
ホテ
AH HA HA
SENSEI...
I'M REALLY SORRY.
ブボボボ
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON AT ALL.
BUT NOW I UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION...
第58回全日本学生ピアノコンクール

IF WE WERE TO BE ARRESTED, THEY'LL ARREST THE MAIN CULPRIT, AOINO FIRST
AH HA HA OF COURSE NOT.
BUT WON'T WE GET ARRESTED FOR COMING TO SUCH A HIGH-CLASS PLACE?
HA HA
中央市民ホール
第56回 全日本学生 ピアノコンクール

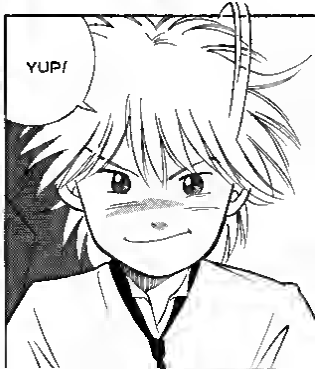
THANK YOU
YOU'RE REALLY A BULLY AREN'T YOU?


OH SHUSH YOU
FOR COMING TO THIS PLACE IN HER PAJAMAS

AAAAH! BUT MAYBE REI-CHAN WILL GET ARRESTED AFTER ALL

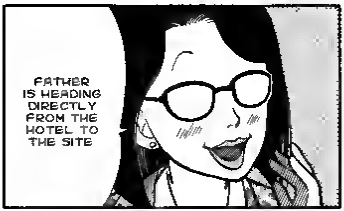
LET'S DO THIS!!
ピアノコンクール

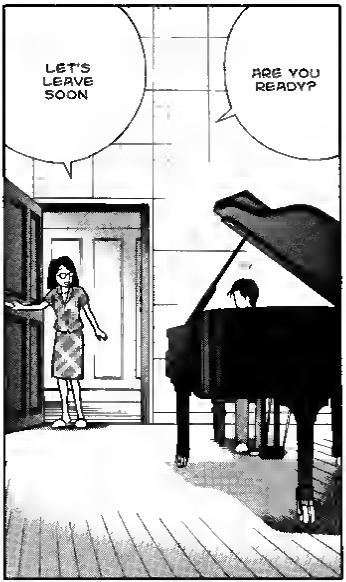
NOW THEN
SHALL WE?


YUP!

コンクールの朝 END

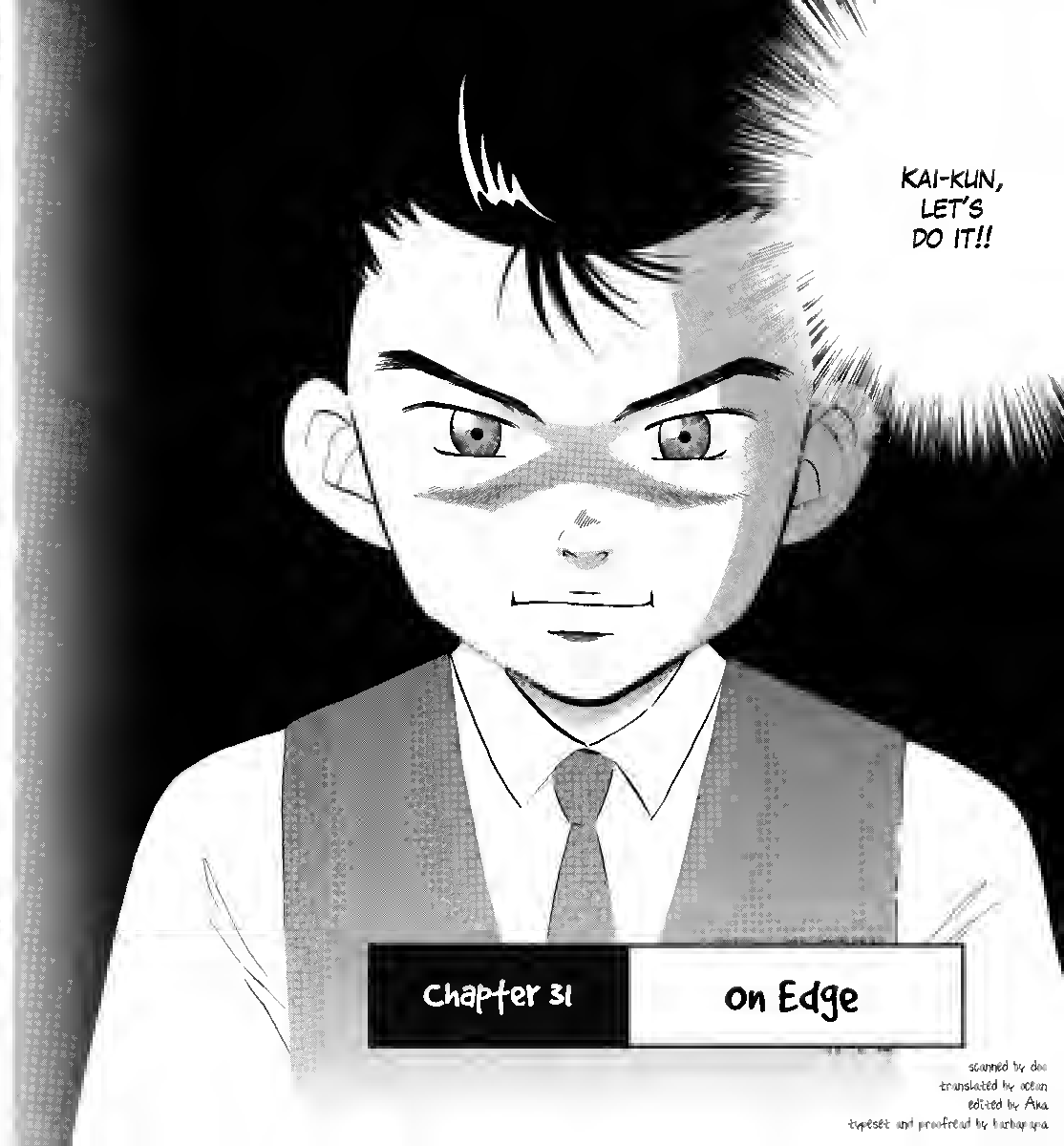
SYUHEI-SAN..


FATHER IS HEADING DIRECTLY FROM THE HOTEL TO THE SITE


ARE YOU READY?
LET'S LEAVE SOON

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT.

ICHINOSE KAI-KUN IS IT?
YES, YOU'VE BEEN TAKEN CARE OF
HERE ARE SOME BROCHURES AND THE PROGRAMME
全日本学生ピアノコンクール
1998
THE CONTESTANTS' WAITING ROOM IS STRAIGHT AHEAD, TO YOUR RIGHT...
全日本学生ピアノコンクー



Chapter 31 On Edge

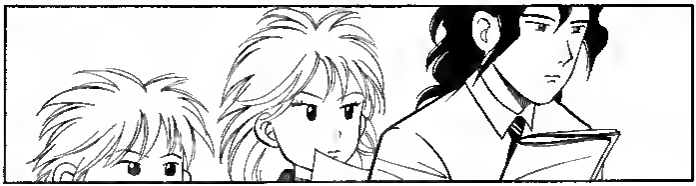
scanned by: doc
translated by: ocean
edited by: Aka
typeset and proofread by: harbor pna

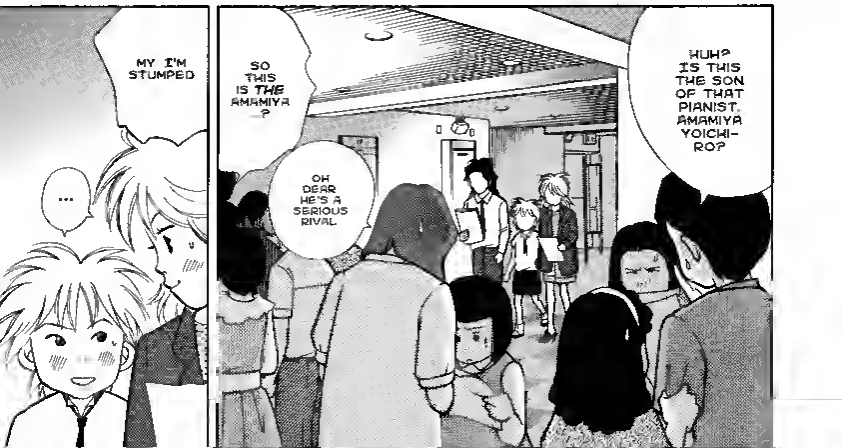
THANK YOU.
全日本学生
ピアノコンク
KUH?
WHAT'S WRONG?
出場者
受付
Sign Contestant Check-In

IT'S JUST THAT... THAT CHILD WAS TOO PRETTY
HUH? BUT IT'S A BOY RIGHT?
YES. THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS HERE BUT...
I HOPE HE'LL MAKE IT THROUGH...
SEE. 37TH!
OH YEAH ♡
37TH!

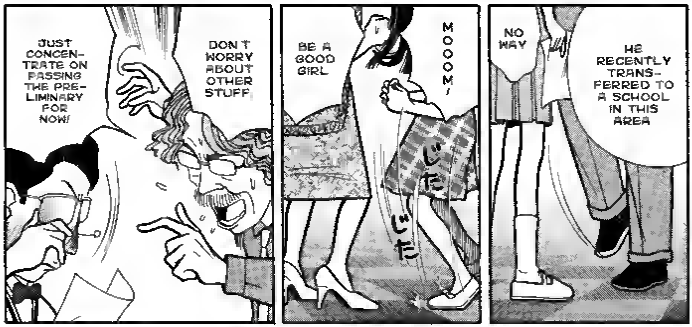
KAI IN A PIANO CONTEST
BUT IT STILL FEELS LIKE I'M DREAMING
I'M THE ELEVENTH LAST LAME
37TH OUT OF 47
TWO HOURS UNTIL MY TURN.
OH MAN I STILL HAVE TWO HOURS?
はあ
TWO HOURS
IF EVERYTHING GOES ACCORDING TO THE PROGRAMME IT'LL BE ABOUT TWO HOURS UNTIL ICHINOSE'S TURN
HUH?
AH!
I ONLY HAVE TWO HOURS!

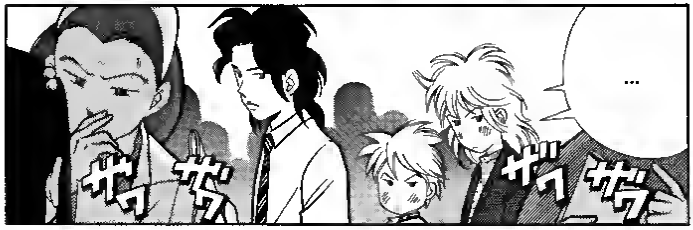
HERE LOOK! LOOK!
SYU-CHAN IS 31ST!
OH YEAH
REI-CHAN YOU'LL BE ABLE TO LISTEN TO AMAMIYA'S PIANO!
THE PROBLEM IS NUMBER 31.
AMAMIYA SYUHEI




WUH? IS THIS THE SON OF THAT PIANIST, AMAMIYA YOICHI-RO?
SO THIS IS *THE* AMAMIYA-?
OH DEAR HE'S A SERIOUS RIVAL
MY I'M STUMPED
...

HE'S FROM TOKYO, RIGHT? ISN'T HE SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE "KANTO DISTRICT?"
BUT WHY IS HE PARTICIPATING IN THE "SOUTHERN CENTRAL DISTRICT" ?
ザワ ザワ
ザワ ザワ


JUST CONCENTRATE ON PASSING THE PRELIMINARY FOR NOW!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT OTHER STUFF
BE A GOOD GIRL
MOOOM!
じたじた
NO WAY
HE RECENTLY TRANSFERRED TO A SCHOOL IN THIS AREA

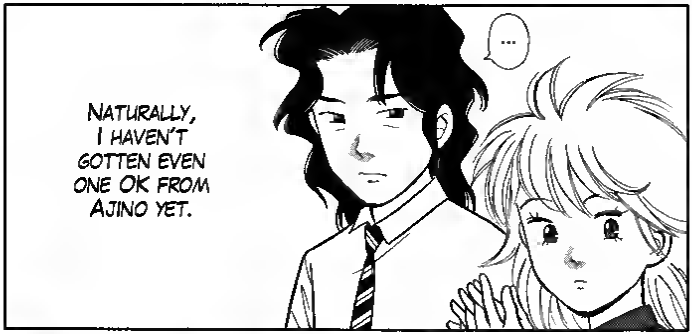

...
ザワ ザワ
ザワ ザワ

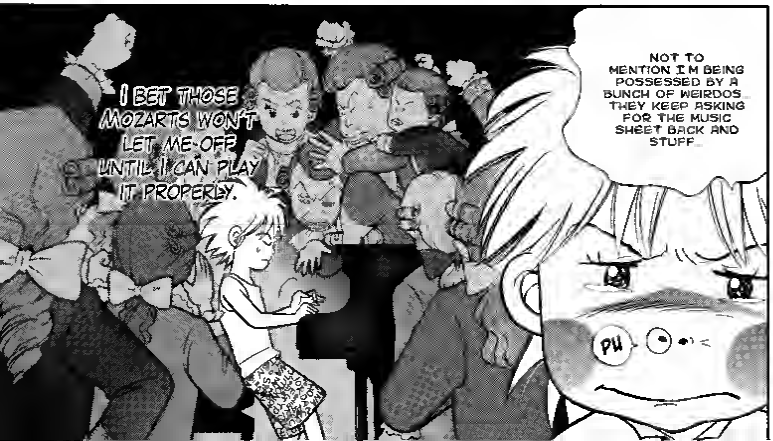
HA HA...
IT'S MORE LIKE THEY DESPISE THE VERY THOUGHT OF HIM
EVERY-ONE'S WORRIED ABOUT HIM
SO SYU-CHAN REALLY IS AMAZING AFTER ALL

OF TODAY'S DISTRICT PRELIMINARY AND THE DISTRICT FINAL TWO WEEKS FROM NOW ONLY ONE PERSON ULTIMATELY GETS TO GO TO THE NATIONAL CONTEST
A NATIONAL COMPETITION?
YES
第58回 全日本学生ピアノコンクール
WE DECIDE ON THE BEST PIANO PLAYER IN JAPAN THERE.
BE-
BEST IN JAPAN !?
YUP, YUP
THAT'S WHAT AMAMIYA IS AIMING FOR.
THAT'S WHY, WHICHEVER CHILD IS AIMING TO BE THE BEST IN JAPAN...
HAS TO WIN THIS DISTRICT CONTEST FIRST.

ESPECIALLY SOMEONE WHO COMES FROM A NOBLE FAMILY SUCH AS AMAMIYA S.
THAT'S PROBABLY WHY THEY SEE EVERYONE ELSE AS THEIR ENEMY.
MOZART
I NEVER WOULD'VE IMAGINED THAT HE'D ENTER A COMPETITION THAT DECIDES THE BEST IN JAPAN...
BUT THE THOUGHT OF KAI ENTERING SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
I TOLD YOU, IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.
YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND, DO YOU R...I-CHAN!?
D-DON'T BE SILLY!
I KNEW HE WAS GOOD AT PLAYING THE PIANO IN THE FOREST, BUT...
HUUUH?

I'M FAR FROM AIMING TO BE THE BEST IN JAPAN
LIKE AJINO SAYS, I CAN'T EVEN PLAY MY OWN MOZART...

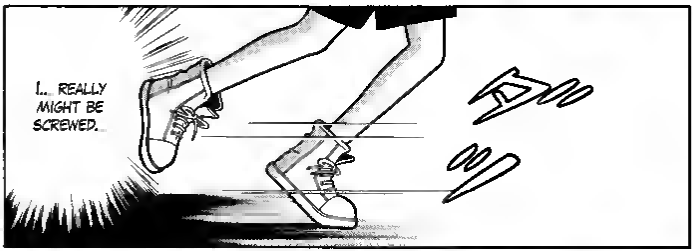

...
NATURALLY, I HAVEN'T GOTTEN EVEN ONE OK FROM AJINO YET.


NOT TO MENTION I'M BEING POSSESSED BY A BUNCH OF WEIRDOS... THEY KEEP ASKING FOR THE MUSIC SHEET BACK AND STUFF...
PU
I BET THOSE MOZARTS WON'T LET ME OFF UNTIL I CAN PLAY IT PROPERLY.

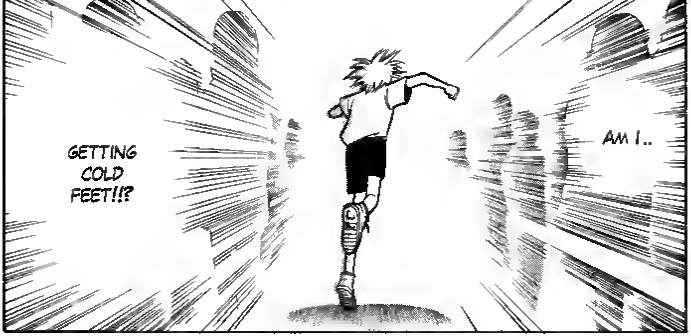
...
CRAP! I'M GETTING VERY WEAK-KNEED.
UGH...
ARE YOU STILL GETTING MOZART GHOSTS?
AH HA HA...
HEY, HEY, KAI
WHAT?
IT'S REALLY PISSING ME OFF...
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU FOR TELLING ME A STUPID LIE!
DON'T LAUGH! WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK THAT IS!?

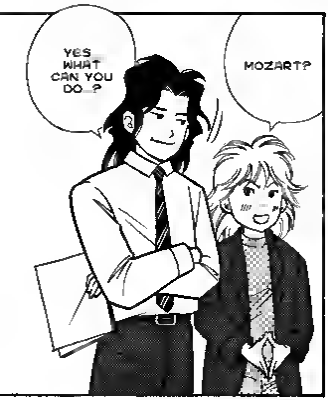
!!
THE SET PIECE FOR TODAY'S PRELIMINARY IS BY MOZART.
WHAT ARE THESE MOZART GHOSTS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT?
!!!
?
WHAT GOT INTO ME!?
WHA-
IT'S NO BIG DEAL
IT'S ALL RIGHT REI-CHAN YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW
ゴゴゴ

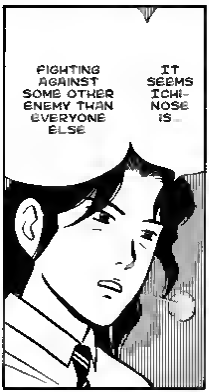
KAI?
MAYBE AMAMIYA'S THERE...
I I'LL GO TAKE A LOOK AT THE CONTESTANTS WAITING ROOM

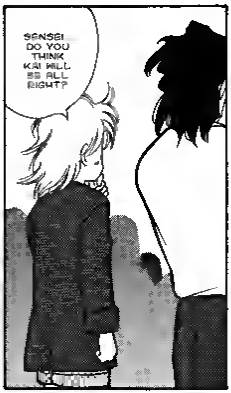

I... REALLY MIGHT BE SCREWED.

EITHER WAY, I'VE GOTTA BE ALONE... IF I HANG AROUND THEM, I'LL WHINE, COMPLAIN, AND I MAY END UP CRYING...









Sign Contestant Waiting Room

...
IT SEEMS HE ISN'T HERE YET.
HRM
... BUT WHY ARE THERE SO MANY PEOPLE ..!?
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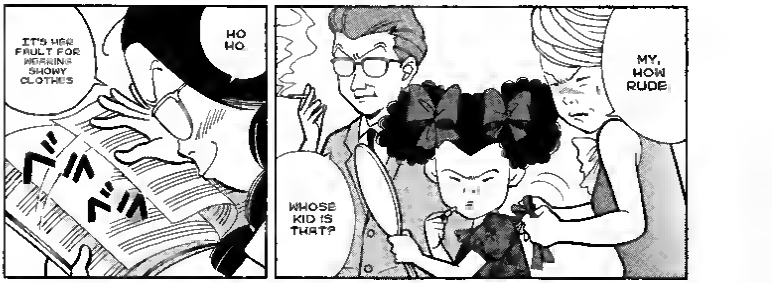
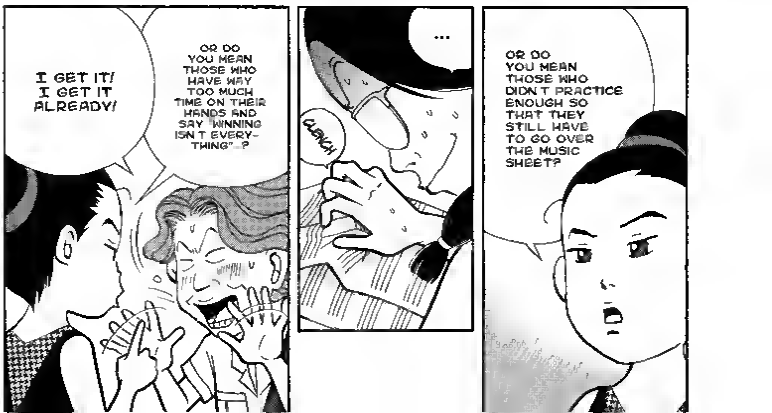
ザワ
THIS IS TERRIBLE!
OH WELL... I'LL JUST WAIT HERE FOR AMA-MIYA...

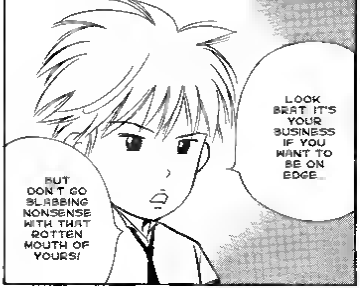
はぁ〜
AGAIN..?
...
WHY IS AMAMIYA SYUHEI PARTICIPATING IN THE SOUTHERN CENTRAL DISTRICT?
ISN'T HE SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE KANTO DISTRICT SHIRAISHI ?
YES, ACCORDING TO THE DATA FROM 6 MONTHS AGO
DATA...!
P!
F!
I'M AIMING TO GO TO THE NATIONAL CONTEST!
I CAN GO TO THE FINAL CONTEST WITHOUT HAVING TO FOCUS
EITHER WAY, PLEASE JUST FOCUS ON PASSING THE PRELIMINARY SO THAT YOU CAN GO TO THE FINAL CONTEST
ARE YOU PESTERING ME ABOUT THAT AGAIN..?
IF HE'S PARTICIPATING HERE, HE'LL BE THE WINNER!

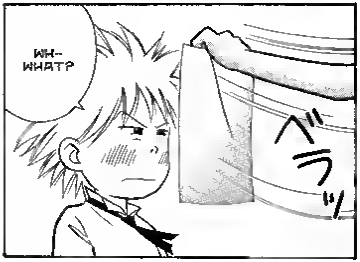
OTHER CHILDREN... YOU MEAN, THOSE WHO DON'T EVEN KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A RECITAL AND A CONTEST, AND DRESS UP IN SHOWY CLOTHES?
...
P-PLEASE LOWER YOUR VOICE... THERE ARE OTHER CHILDREN TOO...
THE NATIONAL CONTEST THAT ONLY ONE PERSON HERE CAN ENTER!

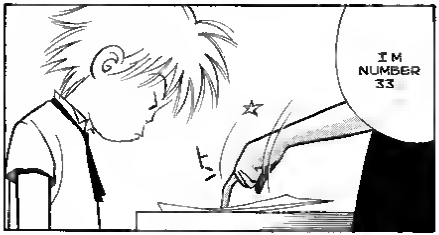

IT'S HER FAULT FOR WEARING SHOWY CLOTHES
HO HO
WHOSE KID IS THAT?
MY, HOW RUDE

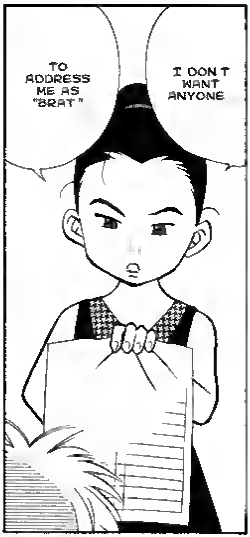

I GET IT! I GET IT ALREADY!
OR DO YOU MEAN THOSE WHO HAVE WAY TOO MUCH TIME ON THEIR HANDS AND SAY "WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING"...?
...
GURGH
OR DO YOU MEAN THOSE WHO DIDN'T PRACTICE ENOUGH SO THAT THEY STILL HAVE TO GO OVER THE MUSIC SHEET?

HE'S THE SON OF A HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL MAN IN THIS WORLD!
HE'S AMAMIYA YOICHIRO'S SON
...
I KNOW
ANYWAY YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE
BEFORE THE CONTEST EVEN BEGINS HIS VICTORY HAS ALREADY BEEN ASSURED
IT'S PROBABLY BEEN DECIDED FROM THE BEGIN-NING
THEN DON'T !!
THERE'S NO USE PARTICIPAT-ING IN THIS CONTEST
HONEY CAN YOU GO AND QUIET HER DOWN?
NO WAY
I-IS THAT TRUE?









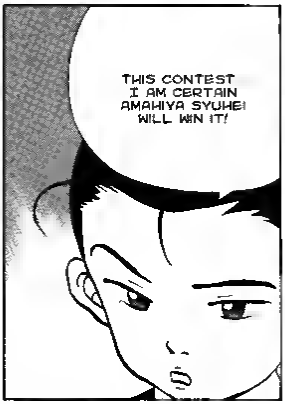
Name: Maruyama Takako

WELL EXCUSE ME IF I CAN'T READ IT
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO READ KANJI?
AH IT READS TAKAKO
TAKAKO MARUYAMA TAKAKO!
MARU-YAMA
NUMBER 33, MARU-YAMA
...
...
NUMBER 37 ICHINOSE KAI
HERE TAKE THIS BACK
WHAT NUMBER ARE YOU?
SHIRAISHI!
I'M A GUY! HOW CAN YOU NOT TELL!?
ARE YOU A GUY OR A GIRL? I JUST CAN'T TELL

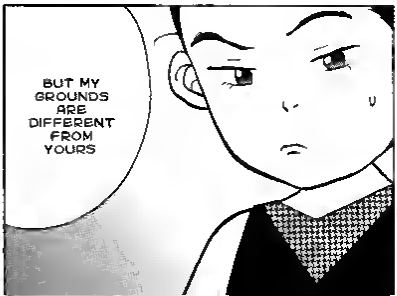
YOU'RE JUST SMALL FRY
HEH

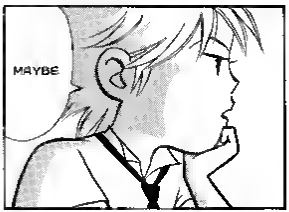
Small fry
Small fry...

NO HE'S ABSOLUTELY NOT!
NUMBER 37 ICHINOSE KAI IS HE ON THE LIST OF "GOOD PIANISTS?"
PI
PI

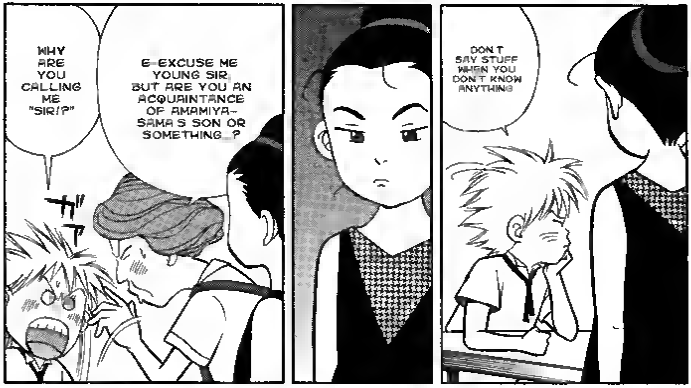

THIS CONTEST I AM CERTAIN AMAHIYA SYUHEI WILL WIN IT!

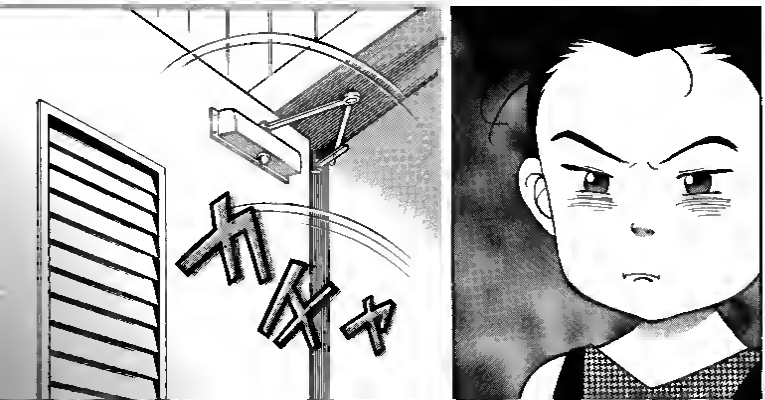
SAYS YOU!
LET ME TELL YOU THIS TAKAKO'S MOUTH IS NOT ROTTEN NOR AM I SAYING ANYTHING UNFOUNDED!


BUT MY GROUNDS ARE DIFFERENT FROM YOURS


MAYBE

HE'LL WIN THE CONTEST WITH HIS OWN SKILL!
AMAMIYA WILL WIN BECAUSE OF TRUE SKILL


E-EXCUSE ME YOUNG SIR, BUT ARE YOU AN ACQUAINTANCE OF AMAMIYA-SAMA'S SON OR SOMETHING...?
WHY ARE YOU CALLING ME "SIR!?"
ガァ
DON'T SAY STUFF WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING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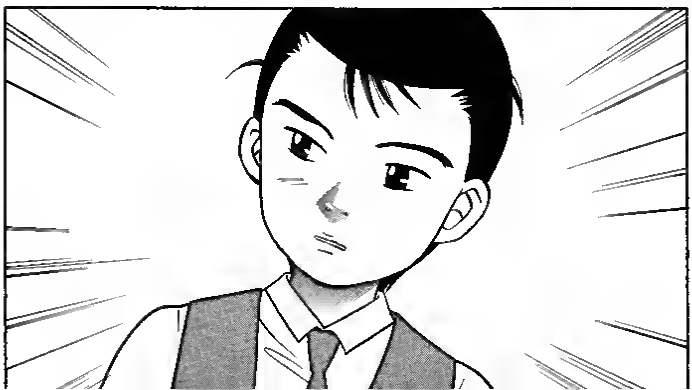


AMAMIYA SYUHEI
HERE HE COMES
AH
HE CAME AT A BAD TIME... HOPE HE WON'T NOTICE ME...
AMAMIYA SYUHEI!!?
HE IS...
EH!?
AMA-MIYA-?
SO, YOU DO KNOW ABOUT AMAMIYA'S SKILL...
BUT IT'S NOT SO HARD GETTING A PICTURE OF SOMEONE WHO'S ONE OF THE MOST SKILLED PLAYERS IN THE NATION, AND A CANDIDATE TO WIN THE CONTEST!
OF COURSE IT'S OUR FIRST TIME SEEING HIM IN PERSON...
WHAT, YOU KNOW HIM?

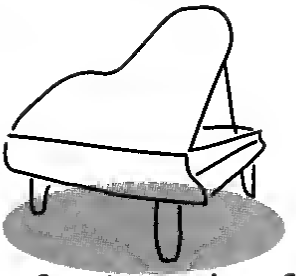
THAT...
...
LADY TAKAKO WOULD'VE WON THIS "SOUTHERN CENTRAL DISTRICT" PRELIMINARY!
THAT'S WHY, ACCORDING TO THE DATA IF AMAMIYA'S SON PARTICIPATED IN THE "KANTO DISTRICT" AS PLANNED...
THE CONTEST WILL BEGIN SHORTLY WILL THE PARTICIPANTS PLEASE..
HEY!
KAI-KUN YOU'RE HERE AL-READY
AH
ピリピリ END

HA HA
I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD BE HAPPY ABOUT THAT
あはは…
YEAH
SHE JUST SAID YOU'RE HER BIGGEST RIVAL AMAMIYA
SOMETHING THE MATTER?
IS
ザワ
THOUGH MY BIGGEST RIVAL IS KAI-KUN
どっ
WHAT, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID THAT!
HEH?
JUST SMALL FRY
EXACTLY WHO ARE YOU REALLY?

Chapter 32

Little Lady Takako-sama

scanned by dee
translated by ocean
edited by Aka
typeset and proofread by harbapapa



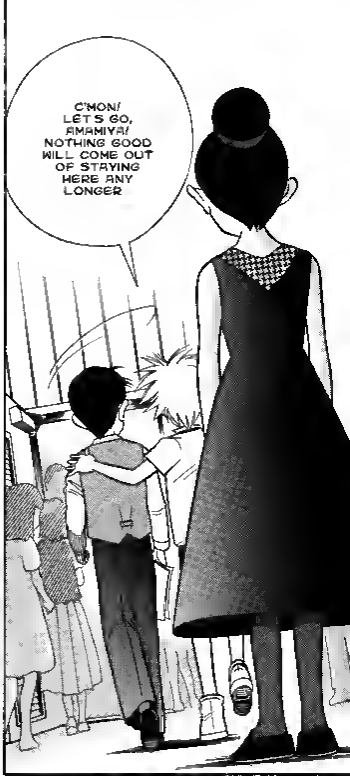
The Perfect World of KAI

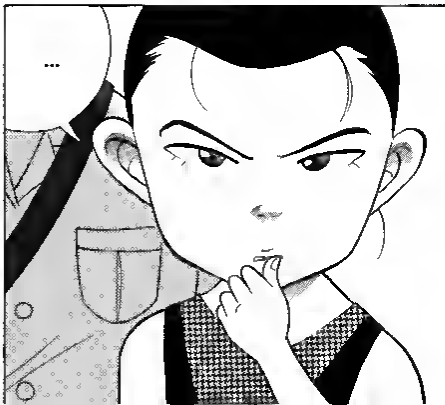
PARTICIPANTS NUMBER 1 TO NUMBER 7 PLEASE COME TO THE BACK OF THE STAGE
PARTICIPANTS PLEASE FOLLOW THE STAFF MEMBERS AND...
WE WILL NOW START THE CONTEST.

AHH
HMM

I WONDER IF I'LL BE OKAY..?
KAI-KUN, LET'S GIVE IT OUR ALL!!
AT LAST
YUP
!

DON'T TELL ME YOU BELIEVED WHAT AMAMIYA SAID EARLIER...
...
PLEASE STOP THAT...
WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME!?
HA HA...
THOUGH, I WASN'T JOKING AT ALL.
SHE'S GOT NO SENSE OF HUMOR SO WATCH WHAT YOU SAY
SEE YOU WERE JUST FOOLING AROUND AND NOW SHE CONSIDERS ME HER RIVAL TOO
BYE NOW!
GREAT, SAME HERE!
...
I... REALLY HATE PEOPLE LIKE YOU!
THEN DON'T LOOK AT ME FROM NOW ON EITHER
OH YEAH?
I WASN'T STARING AT YOU...
ARE YOU DAFT?





— A DESPISABLE GIRL WHO GOES AROUND SAYING IF AMAMIYA WASN'T ENTERING SHE'D WIN THE CONTEST, EVEN BEFORE IT STARTED.

SCOLDING A GIRL LIKE THAT... I SUCK.
I'M PROBABLY ON EDGE, TOO.
ON EDGE HUH
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE EVERYONE'S ON EDGE NOW
AH, MOTHER
SYUHEI-SAN!
EVERYONE... IS ON EDGE.
GLANCE
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HONOMURA HANAYO-SENSEI..
SAGA TAKESHI-SENSEI.
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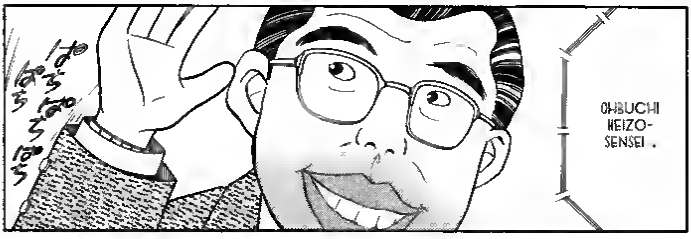
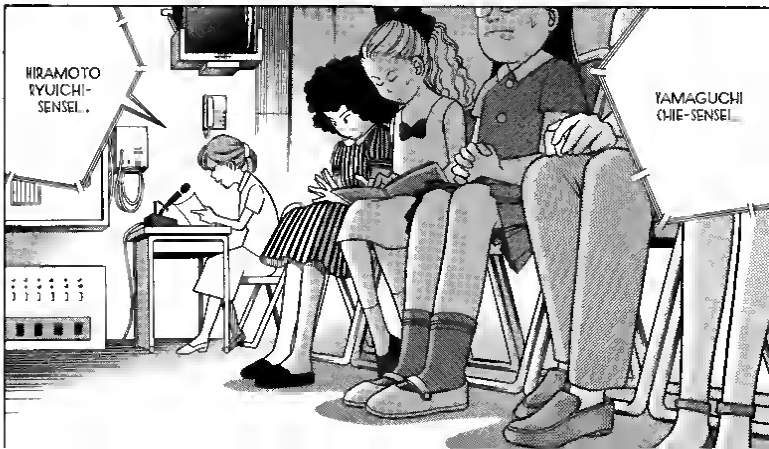
ピッチ
ピッチ


OHBUCHI HEIZO-SENSEI.
ぱらぱらぱらぱらぱら


HIRAMOTO RYUICHI-SENSEI..
YAMAGUCHI CHIE-SENSEI..

AFORE-MENTIONED 12 TEACHERS...
WILL BE JUDGING THE CONTEST.
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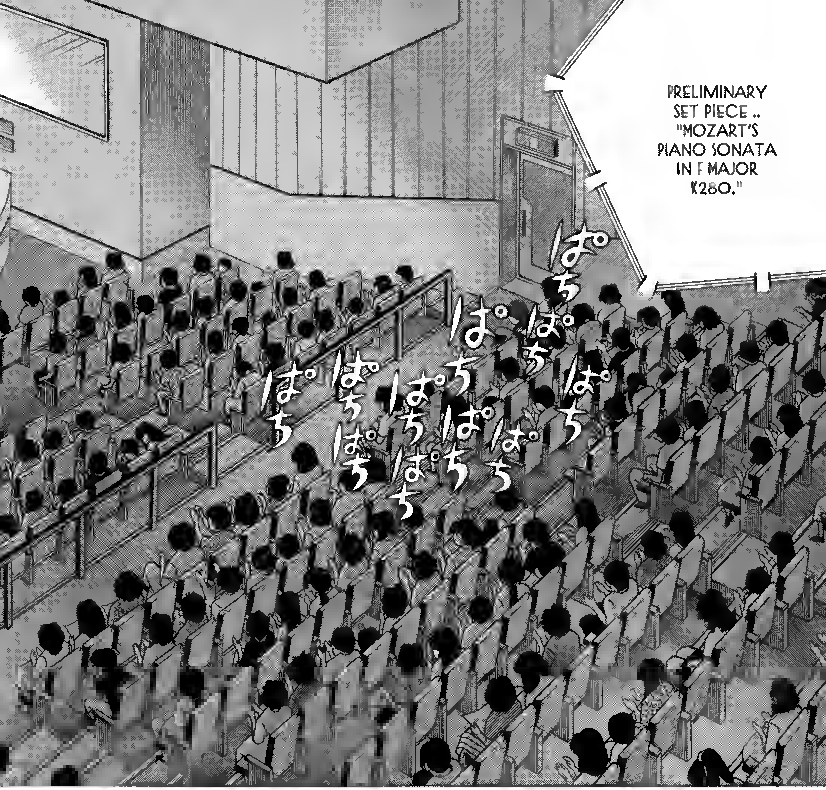
NUMBER 1 ... ENOMOTO RIKA-SAN
REGIONAL PRELIMINARY, PIANO PERFORMANCE
WE WILL NOW BEGIN WITH THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS SECTION
小学校
1
Elementary School


PRELIMINARY SET PIECE .. "MOZART'S PIANO SONATA IN F MAJOR K280."
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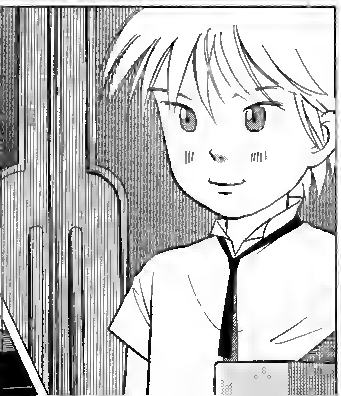

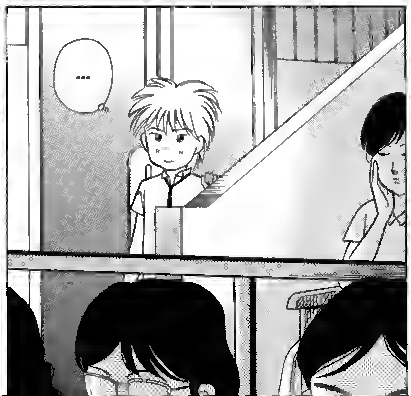
...

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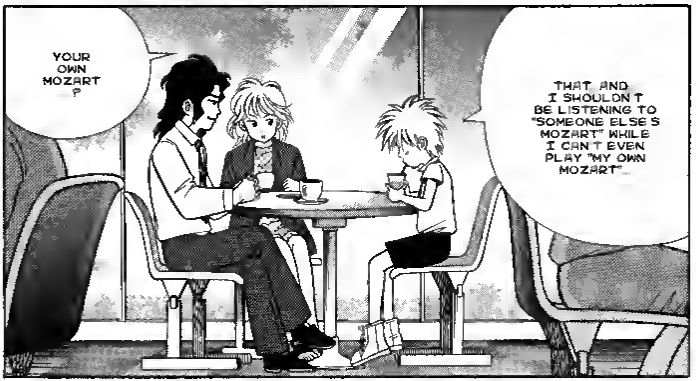
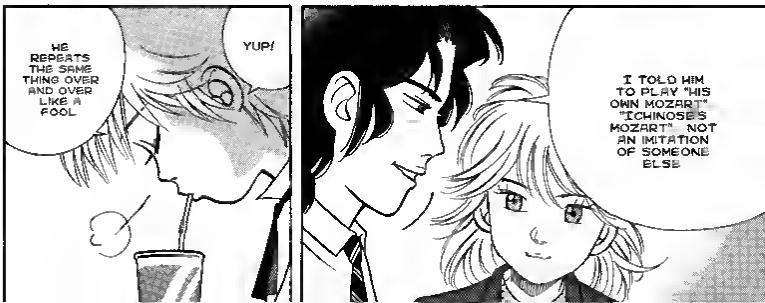
TOO NERVE WRECKING TO KEEP LISTENING ?

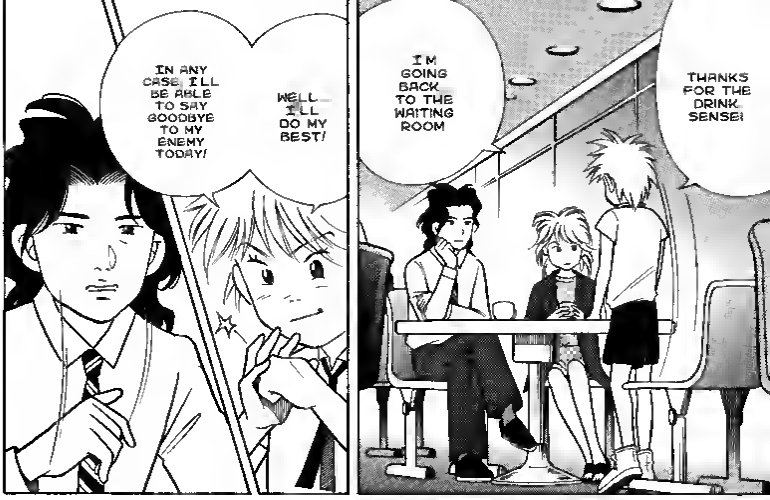

YOUR OWN MOZART ?
THAT AND I SHOULDN'T BE LISTENING TO "SOMEONE ELSE'S MOZART" WHILE I CAN'T EVEN PLAY "MY OWN MOZART"

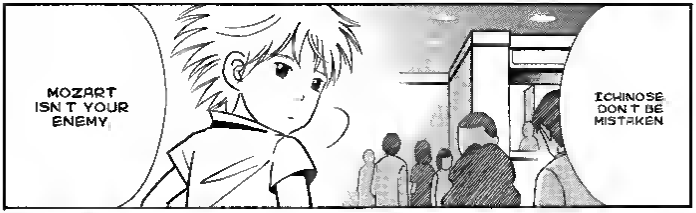

HE REPEATS THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER LIKE A FOOL
YUP!
I TOLD HIM TO PLAY "HIS OWN MOZART" "ICHINOSE'S MOZART" NOT AN IMITATION OF SOMEONE ELSE

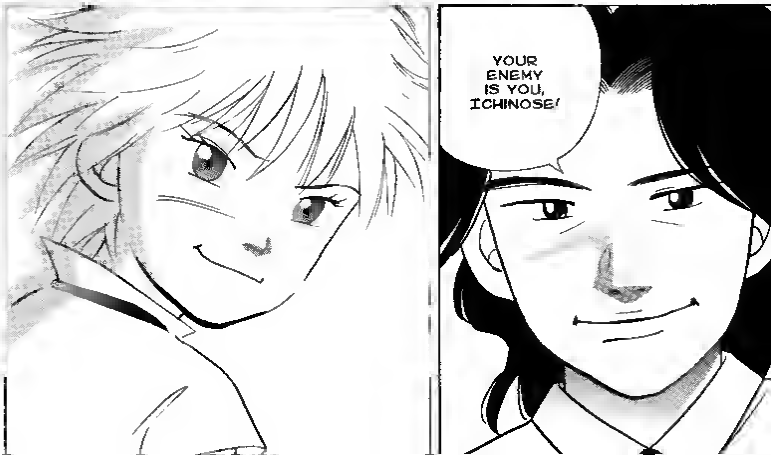
HE NEEDS NOW
HE HAS EVERY-THING..
HA HA
THERE'S NOTHING LEFT I CAN TEACH ICHINOSE
JUST PLAY THE PIANO IN FRONT OF YOU! CONCENTRATE ON THAT!
ALL THAT IS LEFT, IS TO CONCENTRATE...
HUH?
KAI JUST HAS TO PLAY "HIS OWN PIANO," RIGHT?
"H HA HA... THAT'S EASY, THEN.
I ALREADY KNOW WHAT AJINO WANTS TO SAY TO ME.
...

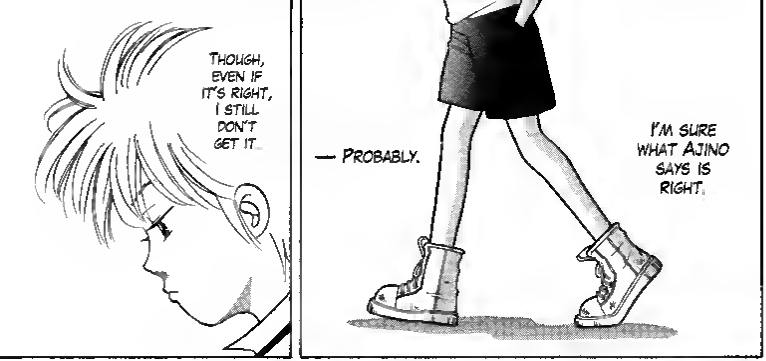
YES, THAT'S WHAT I TOLD HIM
RIGHT?
YOU PLAY THAT ALL THE TIME, SHOULDN'T BE HARD
THAT MEANS YOU JUST HAVE TO PLAY LIKE YOU PLAY THE "PIANO IN THE FOREST"...
IF I WAS ABLE TO DO THAT, I WOULDN'T BE SITTING HERE WORRYING MY ASS OFF!
MAAAAAN
THE "PIANO IN THE FOREST" IS SPECIAL

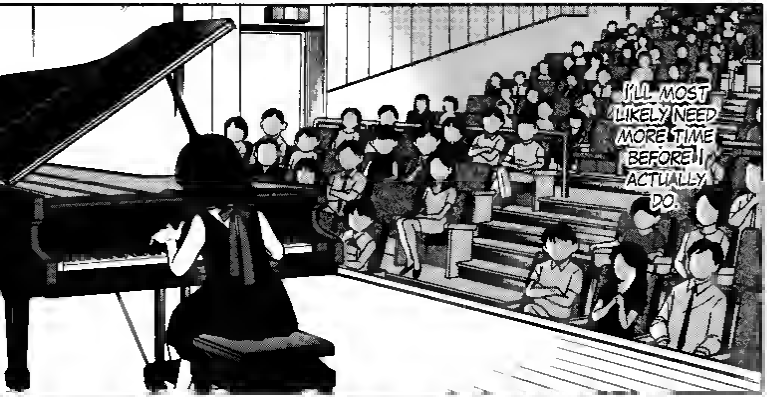
IT'S NOT LIKE THE PIANO PLAYED BY ITSELF...
MAYBE IT IS, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A "MAGIC PIANO," RIGHT?
WHO CREATED THE SOUND...
IT WAS YOU
...
I'VE HEARD THE SAME THING SEVERAL TIMES.
STILL, THAT PIANO IS A MAGIC PIANO!
I'VE SAID THIS SEVERAL TIMES, TOO.


IN ANY CASE, I'LL BE ABLE TO SAY GOODBYE TO MY ENEMY TODAY!
WELL... I'LL DO MY BEST!
I'M GOING BACK TO THE WAITING ROOM
THANKS FOR THE DRINK, SENSEI


MOZART ISN'T YOUR ENEMY
ICHINOSE DON'T BE MISTAKEN


YOUR ENEMY IS YOU, ICHINOSE!

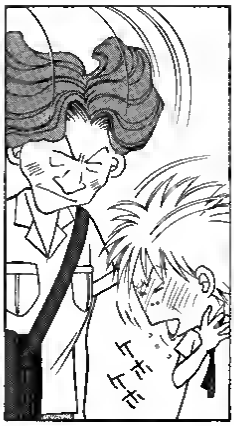

I'M SURE WHAT AJINO SAYS IS RIGHT.
— PROBABLY.
THOUGH, EVEN IF IT'S RIGHT, I STILL DON'T GET IT.


I'LL MOST LIKELY NEED MORE TIME BEFORE I ACTUALLY DO.

DAMMIIIT
EASIER SAID THAN DONE
— BUT TIME'S RUNNING OUT—
学校
6

AH! YOUNG SIR!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING "YOUNG SIR?"
I'M GONNA HIT YOU!
D-DID YOU SEE LADY TAKAKO?
I CAN'T FIND HER ANY-WHERE
WHO CARES? SHE PROBABLY WENT HOME.
N-NO WAY...
SHE CAN ENTER THE CONTEST AGAIN NEXT YEAR, WHEN AMAMIYA ISN'T HERE.
IF AMAMIYA ISN'T HERE, THAT DAMN LADY WILL WIN, RIGHT?
I MEAN, ACCORDING TO YOUR DAMN DATA...?

SHE'S A YEAR OLDER.
HEH.
TAKAKO-SAN IS A 6TH GRADER
B-BUT IT'S HER LAST CHANCE TO ENTER THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS SECTION
IT'D BE A GREAT DISADVANTAGE TO COMPETE AS A 7TH GRADER
IN THE JUNIOR HIGH SECTION, 90% OF THE WINNERS ARE 9TH GRADERS
SHE CAN'T!
THEN SHE CAN ENTER THE JUNIOR HIGH SECTION.
BECAUSE...
ALSO... IT'LL END UP BEING THE SAME IF SHE RUNS NOW
IF SHE WERE TO COMPETE IN 9TH GRADE, THAT'LL BE THREE YEARS FROM NOW!
WHO CARES ABOUT ALL THAT...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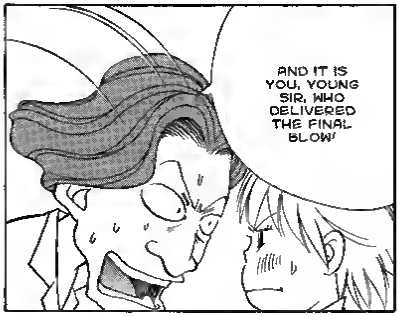
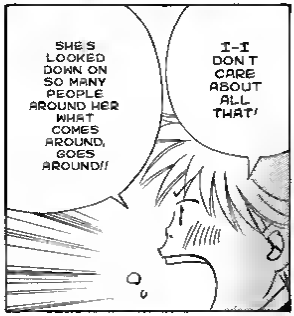
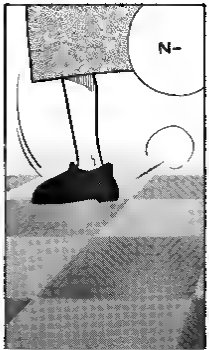
SO SKILLED, YET SHE GETS SO NERVOUS SHE'S UNABLE TO SHOW HER TRUE POTENTIAL DURING THE PERFORMANCE
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, TAKAKO-SAMA IS REALLY SKILLED


AND IT IS YOU, YOUNG SIR, WHO DELIVERED THE FINAL BLOW!


SHE'S LOOKED DOWN ON SO MANY PEOPLE AROUND HER WHAT COMES AROUND, GOES AROUND!!
I-I DON'T CARE ABOUT ALL THAT!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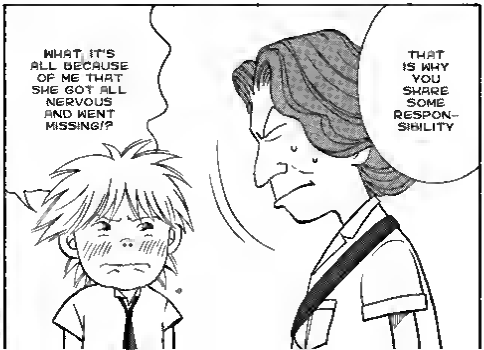

WHAT, IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF ME THAT SHE GOT ALL NERVOUS AND WENT MISSING!?
THAT IS WHY YOU SHARE SOME RESPON-SIBILITY

I SHIRAISHI, WHO GAVE UP ON MARRIAGE TO SERVE LADY TAKAKO, IS ASKING YOU A FAVOR! PLEASE PLEASE, YOUNG SIR
NO WAY
NO IT'S NOT LIKE THAT BUT I WANT YOU TO HELP ME LOOK FOR HER
NO, NO
SO IT'S MY FAULT THAT YOU DIDN'T GET MARRIED HUH
I THINK SHE GETS TOO NERVOUS BECAUSE SHE WASN'T PRAISED WHILE GROWING UP
FOR REAL? WHAT'S WITH THAT?
WHY DO I HAVE TO LISTEN TO HER LIFE STORY...?
SIGH.
I DIDN'T GET MARRIED BECAUSE I FELT FOR TAKAKO-SAMA.

EVER SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD, TAKAKO-SAMA ONLY HAD ME, SHIRAISHI, AND HER DOG, WENDY, TO PLAY WITH.
AND HAD VERY LITTLE TIME TO SPEND WITH HER
TAKAKO-SAMA'S PARENTS WERE VERY BUSY PEOPLE.
ONLY ONCE DID HER PARENTS EVER PRAISE TAKAKO-SAMA...
ON TOP OF THAT, SHE HAS FOUR BRILLIANT OLDER BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO ATTEND ELITE SCHOOLS...
HA HA. HER BROTHERS AND SISTERS WERE ALWAYS TOO BUSY STUDYING SO THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE TIME TO CONTINUE PLAYING
MY TAKAKO IS QUITE GOOD AT THE PIANO.

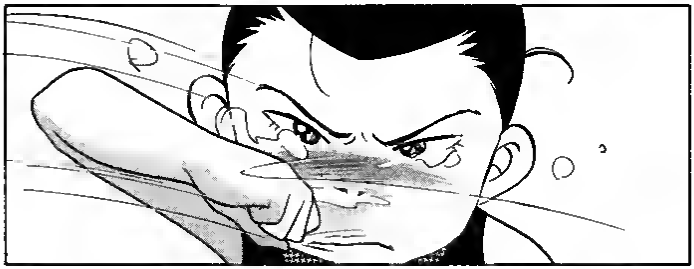
WHEN SHE PLAYED THE PIANO
WHICH IS WHY SHE WAS AIMING TO MAKE IT TO THE NATIONALS AFTER PASSING THIS REGIONAL CONTEST
SHE'S DESPERATE FOR THAT PRAISE
...
I HATE SPOILED PEOPLE
I'M SORRY, BUT
GIVING UP ON HER DREAM LIKE THIS IT'S JUST SO UNEXPECTED
BUT WHO WOULD'VE IMAGINED AMAMIYA'S SON ENTERING THE PRELIMINARY FROM THE SAME REGION ?

はあ
AH
はあ
GEEZ. WHY IS SHE GETTING ME INVOLVED?
...
I'M ON EDGE, TOO
PISSES ME OFF
?
HIEK
HIEK

!!!
HIEK
HIEK
!
OH MAN, IT'S REALLY SERIOUS.
HIEK
HIEK
CRUD IT'S THAT DAMN LADY TAKAKO.
GU
-IEK

!

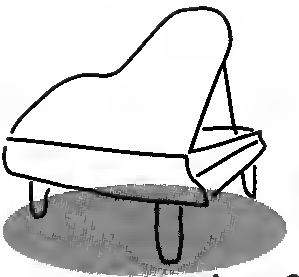
CRYING WON'T GET YOU ANY-WHERE



14
パチパチパチ

タカコお嬢様 END

THAT UNMARRIED SHIRAISHI HAG WAS LOOKING FOR YOU.



The Perfect World of KAI

To be continued in volume 5...

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